

Portfolio

£22,000 to be won

There is £22,000 available to be won in *The Times* Portfolio competition today; the £20,000 weekly prize and a daily prize of £2,000. Yesterday's doubled daily prize was shared between Mrs M. McMichen of London and Mrs Leslie Jayes of Birmingham. Each receives £2,000. Today's list, page 22, week's prize changes, back page Information Service.

Council pay offer may top 6.9%

A proposed pay offer to a million local authority manual workers would match inflation, currently 6.9 per cent, and reverse the three lowest pay grades. The working party proposal has yet to be considered by a full meeting of the employers' side. Page 2

Amal turn guns on PLO camp

Beirut's Shia Muslim Amal militia, already involved in combat with Druze fighters, sprayed fire over the Palestinian camp at Bourj al-Barajneh in a barrage unequalled since the battles of June. Page 5

Jet engine faults

British Airways has withdrawn 22 Fiat and Whitney engines for replacement of their combustion chambers after X-ray tests found they were suspect. Page 2

Shares inquiry

The Stock Exchange is to investigate the recent sale of a large block of shares in Good Relations, the public relations group. Page 23

Bomber's return

A Wellington bomber, which crashed into Loch Ness in 1940, is being brought to the surface next week. Page 3

Spy clue

The car of Hans-Joachim Lundeberg, the Bonn aide suspected of spying, was found in a Cologne car park near a railway station serving Berlin. Page 4

Neo-Nazi jailed

A neo-Nazi leader was jailed for 20 years as the US cracked down on extremist groups which have acquired huge caches of arms. Page 7

Joseph call

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, has urged preparatory schools to examine their curriculum to improve the quality of education, as state schools were doing. Page 2

Karpov's craft

Deft play by Anatoly Karpov enabled the defending world chess champion to salvage a draw against Gary Kasparov in their resumed second round match. Page 7

Pub hopes

Elder IXL, the Australian brewer, would sell half the equity in Allied-Lyons's 7,000 public houses to licensees if its bid for Allied succeeds. Page 23

Car insurance

Motorists who are being asked to pay higher car insurance premiums may be able to claim Hufschmidt Elena and this year's state of air crashes. Family Money, pages 25-28

Britain behind

Britain trails West Germany by 15 points in the Three-Day Event at Burghley, with the crucial seed and endurance phase to come today. Page 29

Middlesex lead

Middlesex beat Leicestershire to take a two-points lead over Hampshire, now their only chief rivals, in the county cricket championship. Page 29

Leader page 11

Letters: On the economy, from Mr C. J. O. Garrard; £1 coins, from Mrs A. B. Langdon. Leading articles: Social Democratic Party; Gorbachev interview. Obituary, page 14. Professor Paul P. Ewald, Professor Evelyn Burns.

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Liberals not ready for power, says Steel aide

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

The Liberal party is totally unprepared for government and is being hindered in the process by divisions within the SDP, its Alliance partner, according to a secret document prepared by one of Mr David Steel's leading advisers.

The disclosure last night of the contents of Mr William Wallace's "most confidential" paper could hardly come at a more embarrassing time with the SDP conference opening tomorrow in Torquay, where Mr Steel will deliver a keynote speech.

Apart from creating tensions between the Alliance parties, the document will also be seized upon by the Government to discredit Dr Owen and Mr Steel, especially as it also says an Alliance government would have to dismiss some Whitehall permanent secretaries because they are "unacceptable politically".

Mr Wallace, who has been a leading adviser to Mr Steel since 1976, writes: "The Liberal party has repeatedly talked about 'preparing for government' but it has never actually begun to do so."

According to the Channel 4 programme *A Week in Politics*, which disclosed extracts from the paper, presented to a Liberal party committee two months ago, Mr Wallace's assessment is that the Liberal party is ignorant of how to govern and that the problems of trying to develop policy with the SDP make getting ready for government harder, not easier.

"Our experience of national government is nil, beyond the

vicarious experience of the Lib-Lab pact", Mr Wallace states.

The document says that although Whitehall is "crawling" with officials sympathetic to the Liberals, contact between the Liberal leadership and the officials establishment is very limited.

It also claims that Mrs Margaret Thatcher has politicized the upper ranks of the Civil Service, and advocates the same solution as the Labour Party. "We will want to replace a number of permanent secretaries on arrival in office as they are politically unacceptable to do that we need... to discover who our friends are and who are our most awkward political enemies."

Turning to the SDP, Mr Wallace says the ministerial experience among former members of Labour governments is a "rapidly wasting asset".

The document also claims the splits within the SDP are hindering the Liberals' preparation for government.

"One group within the SDP leadership wishes to avoid clear policy commitments of any sort until the election itself, another wishes to put off detailed discussion in order to retain effective decisions in the hands of the leadership."

"A third group is of like mind to the Liberals, but the resulting deadlock... makes co-operation extremely difficult."

Liberal party officials moved swiftly last night to limit the damage of the disclosure by claiming that parts of the document had been quoted out of context by the Channel 4 programme.

"The result has been to convert what was a very positive and frank document among the party to talk responsibly about the future, into something which really sounds as though we are panic stricken about what lies before us, which obviously is not the case", a spokesman added.

He claimed the document not only pointed to the problems facing the Liberals but also included the means by which they could be overcome.

TUC heads for new state cash battle

From Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter, Blackpool

The TUC set a course for fresh internal conflict yesterday when its ruling body called on right-wing electricians' leaders to declare their intentions on taking government money for ballots.

The issue led the congress to the brink of a damaging split in Blackpool this week and Mr Eric Hammond, general secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union (EETPU), accused the TUC in a heated general council meeting of victimising his union.

"The decision, taken on the last day of the congress, was needlessly provocative, he told the council."

A special meeting of the EETPU executive is expected to endorse state funding in contravention of the TUC policy reaffirmed at the congress on Tuesday.

A threat to expel the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers over the government money issue was averted on Wednesday when TUC leaders accepted the engineers' determination to press ahead with a referendum on the matter among their million members.

Mr John Grant, a spokesman for the electricians, said: "There seems to be an extreme reluctance to learn the object lessons of the past week, that you can't bully people into submission."

Mr Grant added that the union's executive would consider the TUC request to disclose its position and intentions. "But our attitude on the issue is already clear."

The movement's leaders also resolved yesterday to send circulars to all affiliated unions reminding them that the anti-legislation decision taken at Wembley in 1982 are still in force.

Unlike the engineers' union, which has already accepted £1.2 million, the EETPU has yet to receive the £190,000 it has requested from the government Certification Officer for ballots up to January last year. The electricians' union is also applying for a further £200,000.

Mr Tony Dubbins, general secretary of the National Graphical Association and one of the electricians' prime antagonists, would like the TUC to take immediate disciplinary action to prevent the EETPU taking any of the cash.

Mr Dubbins, whose union was infuriated by a single-union agreement signed by Mr Hammond with Mr Eddie Shaw for his new national newspaper, believes the TUC leaders have not been tough enough.

New president, page 2
Congress reports, page 4



Dr de Kock makes a point at yesterday's press conference. Photograph by Chris Harris.

Loans to support rand 'not needed'

By Michael Prest, Financial Correspondent

Dr Gerhard de Kock, governor of South Africa's Reserve Bank, yesterday scotched rumours that South Africa is trying to raise foreign loans to support the Rand, but he admitted that the loans figure by last Sunday's debt moratorium will have to be rescheduled.

Speaking at a press conference in London, Dr de Kock professed to be "stunned" by the misperceptions among the foreign bankers he has visited in the last week about the political situation in South Africa.

He said: "I did not ask a single person for money. We do not anticipate needing more cash dollars." He said he expected to stop off at Zurich on his way home, but would not be trying to arrange with Swiss banks a swap of gold for hard currency. Swiss and German banks in the past have been among the readiest lenders to South Africa.

He said the crisis had been building up for some time and that it came to a head on August 27 when some banks, believed to be mainly American institutions, refused to roll over

Schools shut in Cape riot areas

From Michael Horasby, Johannesburg

The South African Government yesterday ordered the indefinite closure of half the schools for mixed-race Coloureds in the Western Cape. The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis Le Grange, said "further steps" would be taken to contain unrest in the region.

After another day and night of violence, an uneasy lull settled over the Cape Town area, which has been in turmoil for more than a week. The trouble started when police broke up an attempted march to Pollsmoor prison, where Mr Nelson Mandela, leader of the banned African National Congress, is held.

Lawyers for Mr Mandela are to make an urgent application on Monday for him to be examined by his family's doctor after prison officials disclosed yesterday that he had had neurological tests.

His wife Winnie was said to be "frantic with worry". A lawyer said blood had been found in Mr Mandela's urine three months ago, but he was told he did not have a kidney problem. He is 67 and has been in prison since 1962.

Mr Le Grange, who visited Cape Town on Thursday with General Magnus Malan, the Defence Minister, did not specify what new steps might be taken to contain unrest. It is thought the authorities will be reluctant to extend the emergency to the Western Cape. Intensified cordon-and-search operations are considered more likely.

As many as a dozen funerals of unrest victims are reported to be planned over the weekend in Coloured townships near Cape Town. They could lead to more violence if police try to stop them.

Yesterday the Minister of Education in the House of Representatives, the Coloured member of South Africa's tricameral parliament, said that 454 of the 944 Coloured schools and colleges in the immediate Cape town area would be closed. Some 360,000 school-children will be affected.

Mr Carter Ebrahim said "disruptive actions and intimidations of pupils and students by an organized minority" had made it impossible for the authorities to ensure the physical safety of staff and pupils.

Meanwhile, Dr Allan Boesak, the Coloured clergyman who was arrested last week on the eve of the planned Pollsmoor march, has urged students to show restraint so as not "to be exposed to further violence" by police.

In Johannesburg, the United Democratic Front, of which Dr Boesak is a patron, claimed the government was planning to ban it.

US dilemma, page 7

1,400 quit list for Punjab poll

Chandigarh (Reuters) - Only 922 of the 2,377 nominations for Punjab's 117 state assembly and 13 parliamentary seats were still listed as candidates when the deadline for withdrawing nominations expired, the United News of India news agency reported yesterday.

One factor in the large number of last-minute withdrawals could have been fears of further extremist violence after Mr Arjun - Dass, a prominent supporter of Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister, was shot dead on Wednesday.

A senior Punjab police officer said more than 500 people had been detained so far throughout the state in the drive to prevent election violence.

Letter from Delhi, back page

Discount battle hits Japanese cars

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Japanese car sales bore the brunt of the intense discount battle between the big three car makers. - Ford, Austin-Rover and General Motors - for the lion's share of the huge August "C" registration market.

It was the second-best August yet, with sales of 373,253, and an increase of 70,000 over August last year. But the Japanese did not share in the bonanza, although August is traditionally an exceptional month for them with the private motorist dominant over company buyers who favour British-based marques.

Japanese sales of 41,819 gave them an 11.2 per cent share, compared with 13.68 per cent last year. The principal casualty was Nissan, the Japanese market leader, with 21,344 (5.8 per cent) compared with 23,025 (7.5 per cent).

Ford retained the number one spot with 102,213 sales although its share fell from 28.6 per cent to 27.3 per cent.

Austin-Rover executives were delighted with their performance. They sold 40 per cent more cars than the previous August, easily beating the overall 23 per cent increase in the market. Sales of 64,460 (17.2 per cent) enabled them to beat GM, with 59,946 (6 per cent), for second position.

Top 10 cars in August		
1 Ford Escort	30,565	8.2%
2 Ford Fiesta	28,559	7.6%
3 Vauxhall Cavalier	27,891	7.4%
4 Austin Metro	25,458	6.8%
5 Ford Sierra	22,719	6.0%
6 Vauxhall Astra	14,819	3.9%
7 Ford Orion	13,883	3.7%
8 Austin Maestro	12,044	3.2%
9 Austin Montego	11,602	3.1%
10 Vauxhall Nova	11,132	2.9%

Former BBC presenter is sports minister

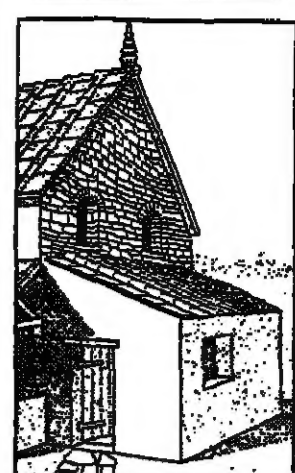
Mr Richard Tracey, Conservative MP for Surbiton, is the new Minister for Sport. Downing Street confirmed last night. He replaces Mr Neil Macfarlane who lost the job earlier this week in Mrs Margaret Thatcher's reshuffle. (Our Lobby Correspondent writes).

Mr Tracey, aged 42, a former BBC current affairs presenter, entered Parliament at the last general election. His appointment, formally as Under Secretary at the Department of the Environment, is his first ministerial post. In 1979 he presented Mrs Thatcher's election rallies at Wembley and Birmingham.

He said yesterday: "I am one who believes that British sport has a very great future."

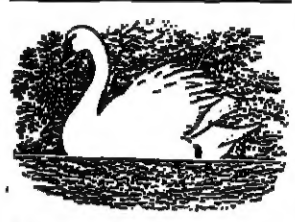
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MONDAY
SDP

Riding on the Alliance wave
Political conferences start with the SDP

Battle of the sexes
Sudan's refugee camp where women rule

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Owner jailed after vet finds hundreds of scars on dogs 'used in fights'

A bull terrier bitch found by police officers and RSPCA officials during an investigation into illegal dog fighting was "peppered" with scars, magistrates at Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, were told yesterday.

There were at least 200 scars on the animal's neck, face and limbs, a veterinary surgeon, Mr David Cuffie, said. The huge number of wounds was "typical of a dog used for systematic or commercial fighting".

He added that a puppy found with the bitch had dozens of scars. "I have never seen a puppy of that age with as many scars as this one had."

Peter Ogden, aged 22, unemployed, of Park Road, Northwold, Potters Bar, was found guilty of permitting unnecessary suffering to the dogs by failing to provide veterinary treatment.

Ogden, who had previously admitted a further offence of aiding and abetting an illegal dog fight, was jailed for two months concurrently on each charge, ordered to pay £800 costs, and disqualified from owning a dog for 10 years.

He was the eleventh man to be arrested after illegal dog-baiting in a disused barn in Enfield north London, last May.

Last month, two men were jailed, one given youth custody and the other a suspended sentence, after a similar case.

Ogden was seen running from the scene of the dog-baiting, Mr David Waters, for the prosecution, said. He had two dogs with him.

"It is not suggested that the two dogs he was seen leaving with were the two dogs involved in that fight," Mr Waters told the court. Ogden was later arrested at his home by the police and RSPCA officials who found the two bull terriers.

Mr Cuffie, who later examined Ogden's terriers, said the puppy was "fit, muscular and well developed". It had 20 or 30 separate scars on the neck and 15 to 20 puncture marks on

each leg. "Some were quite old and some of them were very fresh."

If the animals had not received veterinary treatment they would have been in pain. The puppy should have received anti-biotic treatment and painkillers.

The bitch, aged about two-and-a-half years, had a serious ear wound as well as scars, Mr Cuffie added. "It has, to an extent, turned into a cauliflower ear. It is very badly chewed up and scarred."

Some of the scars had been caused within the previous month, but he said, most inside the previous six months. The bite wounds had been caused over a prolonged period, "not as a result of a single encounter but as a result of many encounters".

Mr Cuffie said a dog involved in a street fight with another dog could expect to receive about one to four wounds. "This dog would have to have had an encounter every week of her life to have had so many."

Wellington bomber to rise from Loch Ness

One of the two remaining Wellington bombers will be raised 200 feet from the seabed of Loch Ness next Friday. It was ditched during a snow storm on New Year's Eve in 1940.

The twin-engined plane, Bomber N2980, R for Robert, a veteran of 14 raids over Germany, is believed to be in almost perfect condition because of the peaty water. It will be restored for the Vickers aircraft museum at Weybridge, Surrey.

One of the 11,461 Wellingtons built survives, a trainer, constructed after the Second World War which is on display at the RAF museum in Hendon.

Two members of the eight crew, the plane's pilot, Group Captain Nigel Marwood-Elton, DFC, from Bodmin, Cornwall, and his wireless instructor, Mr Bill Wright, from Blackpool, will be on hand to watch the Wellington's return.

Group Captain Marwood-Elton, aged 74, who crash-landed the 14-ton aircraft, said yesterday that he and the co-pilot paddled ashore in a dinghy. The six crew baled out, but one was killed when his parachute failed to open.

Group Captain Marwood-Elton, who was then a squadron leader, said: "We were on a training exercise from RAF Lossiemouth when the plane ran into trouble. When the clouds cleared I caught a glimpse of Loch Ness below. The landing was perfectly easy and normal."

He said apart from Sergeant Wright and another crewman he cannot trace, the remainder were killed in action during the war.

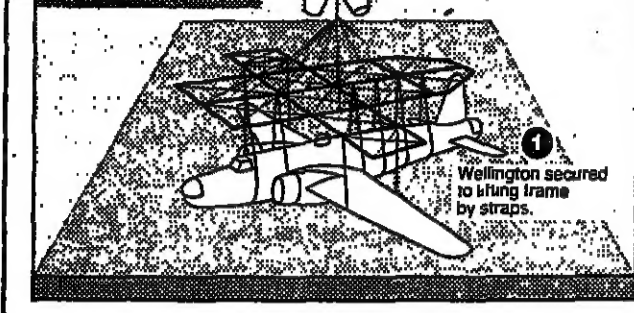
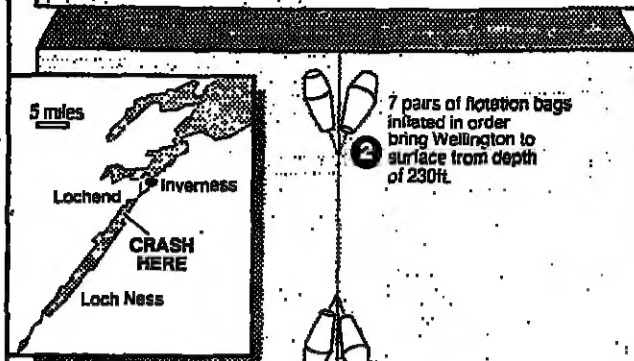
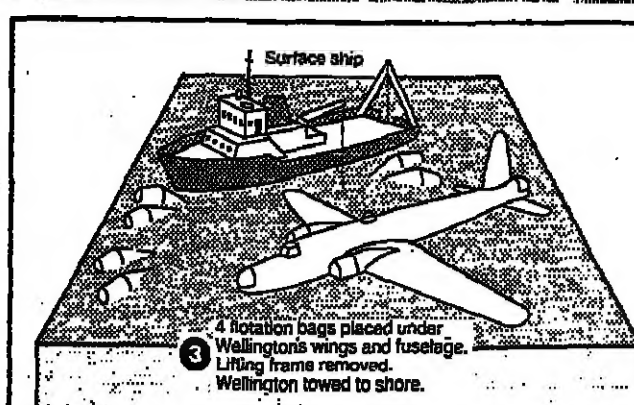
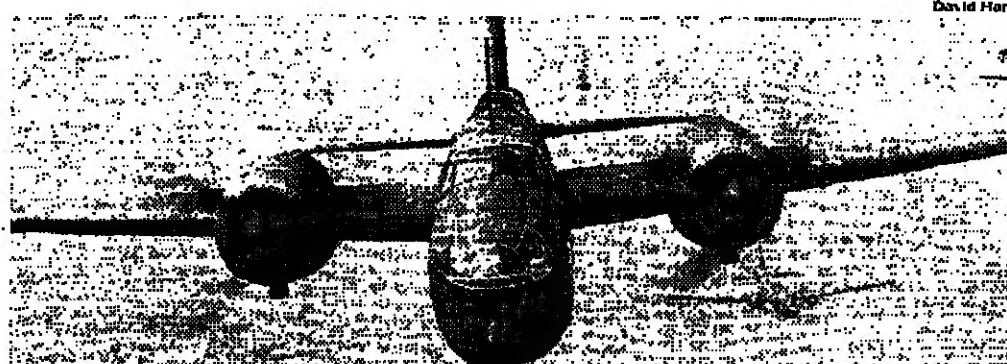
Mr Wright said he and the others baled out and parachuted, landing in hedges, ditches and fields near the loch. "I landed on the front lawn of a big country house. I remember the maid appearing at the window and screaming because of my bloodied, broken nose."

"Two old ladies at the house gave me a very good feed, I certainly remember that."

Two years later Sergeant Wright survived when a Whitley bomber crash-landed in the sea, about 100 miles off the East End.

Group Captain Marwood-Elton said he harboured no sentimental feelings for the plane - it was the only time he piloted it. He flew in the 22 different Wellingtons during his RAF career.

One piece is missing from the Wellington's fuselage but the company supplying the



parachute-shaped inflatable floatation bags, believes the bomber can be lifted in four sequences, five metres apart, to prevent it breaking up.

The company, J W Auto Marine, provided the bags to refloat the Rainbow Warrior in Auckland harbour last month.

The salvage operation will start on Monday at Loch Ness, at the Inverness end of Loch Ness.

Mr Andrew Turner, production manager, said that pairs of floatation bags with a maximum lifting force of 74 tons, will raise the Wellington. A steel crucifix-shaped frame will be lowered over the plane and very strong polyester webbing straps will be placed over the plane and connected to the frame.

BBC leads commercial stations in ratings war

By A Staff Reporter

The BBC is winning the ratings war with ITV, according to the latest audience figures released by the Broadcasting Audience Research Board yesterday.

Those show that in the week ending Sunday, September 1, the BBC secured the top three positions, with the top two spots occupied by the opening episodes of two new Sunday night comedy series for the autumn.

Open All Hours, with Ronnie Barker and David Jason, was watched by 15.7 million viewers, while In Sickness And In Health, Alf Garnett's revival of Till Death Do Us Part, was watched by 15.6 million.

In third place was Tuesday's episode of EastEnders, the first time that the BBC soap opera has overtaken Granada's Coronation Street.

Mr Michael Grade, Controller of BBC1, said yesterday: "This is very encouraging, particularly as the week's figures include only the first night of our new autumn schedule."

"EastEnders is going from strength to strength and our new Sunday night schedule is clearly proving a winner."

TV top ten

Rank	Program	Viewers (millions)
1	Open All Hours BBC1 15.7m	15.7
2	In Sickness and in Health BBC1 15.6m	15.6
3	EastEnders (Tue/Sun) BBC1 15.4m	15.4
4	Coronation Street (Wed) Granada 15.0m	15.0
5	Coronation Street (Mon) Granada 14.2m	14.2
6	EastEnders (Thurs/Sun) BBC1 13.7m	13.7
7	Crimewatch (Sat) BBC1 13.3m	13.3
8	The Benny Hill Show Thames 13.1m	13.1
9	Bulman Granada 13.0m	13.0
10	Dampney and Makepeace LWT 12.8m	12.8

Source: BAR.

Pony 'left to starve in field'

A man twice convicted for cruelty to animals is facing jail after pleading guilty to causing unnecessary suffering by starving a pony almost to death.

Magistrates at Beccles, Suffolk, turned away in horror yesterday after seeing pictures of the animal: "We have seen enough," Mr William Lowe, chairman, said.

Mr Stephen Harris, for the prosecution, told the court that police and veterinary surgeons had found the pony in a field with other neglected animals and the body of a calf. There was no food or water.

He said the veterinary surgeon rated the pony at number five, the most severe degree of emaciation to a horse.

Robert Nicholls had told the police the animal had been ill for eight months. Postponing sentence for three weeks, the magistrates warned him that they were considering a jail term.

The pony had now recovered at a horse rescue centre near Beccles, where it has put on nine stone in two months.

Nicholls, of 8 Durban Close, Halesworth, had previously received a suspended prison sentence and was disqualified for five years from owning a dog. Last September he was fined £50 for cruelty to sheep.

Home left to chauffeur

Major-General Jeremy Spencer-Smith, of the White Cottages, Cheveley, Newmarket, Suffolk, left his £105,000 home to the chauffeur who served him for 20 years.

General Spencer-Smith, the Army's director of manning from 1970-72, left £455,727 net. He died in May, aged 67. He also left £40,000 cash to the chauffeur, Mr Raymond Paul, £2,000 to his regiment, the Welsh Guards, and £1,000 to his parish at Cheveley.

Other wills, page 12

House prices up by 7.6%

House price rises accelerated last month to take the annual rate of increase to 6.9 per cent in July to 7.6 per cent, the Halifax Building Society reported yesterday.

There were wide regional fluctuations. In London, the annual increase rate was 15.4 per cent, but the North of England had a rise of only 2.6 per cent in the year to August.

Murder charge

A third man was charged in Liverpool yesterday with the murder of Bernard Black, aged 42, whose body was found at the foot of a block of flats on August 28. Thomas Smith, of Silgo Street, Oakley, Dumfriesshire, was remanded in custody until Monday.

Cash in the bag

Used banknotes worth £10,000 have been found in a plastic carrier bag, in a street in Cleethorpes, Humberside. The police are waiting for someone to claim them.

Beckford trial's delay criticized

The chairman of the Jasmine Beckford inquiry, yesterday urged that child abuse cases be given top priority in the courts.

Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, speaking at the end of the 41-day inquiry, criticized the nine-month delay in bringing the child's stepfather and mother to trial.

Maurice Beckford, aged 26, and Beverley Lorrington, aged 25, were arrested hours after the girl's death on July 5, 1984. Beckford confessed immediately to killing her, but the couple were not tried until March 25 this year.

The trial took three days. It was a simple trial, nothing complicated. One finds it very difficult to understand why it took nine months to come before the court. We don't have any evidence as to why there was a delay - but I think we should point to it as one of the sort of cases which should have been brought on with expedition," Mr Blom-Cooper said.

Beckford was jailed for 10 years for his stepdaughter's manslaughter and Lorrington for 18 months for neglect. Television cameras were

Sexual allegations by accused miner

Kenneth Foulstone, a Nottinghamshire working miners' leader, told Lincoln Crown Court yesterday that two men who gave evidence against him had been having affairs with his former wife.

Mr Foulstone, from Manton Colliery, who is accused of three burglaries, said that one of his alleged accomplices, Robert Vernon, from Doncaster, was having an affair with his former wife Jean who lived in Rotherham.

That, he said, was at the same time as she was having an affair with George Toozee, from Peterborough, who had told the jury he was offered the stolen items by Mr Foulstone.

"There was gossip in the village; people were speaking about a sugar daddy. It looked as if she was having affairs with both men," Mr Foulstone said.

He admitted that a four-piece silver-plated tea set found at his home bore an uncanny resemblance to items said to have been stolen in 1977.

Mr Foulstone said it was coincidence that the items came into his possession at different times after they were stolen from a house in Doncaster.

He said that was not unusual because he ran an antique shop in Whitwell.

When asked if he thought it unusual that the non-matching set had been bought together 40 years ago, stolen and then reassembled, he said: "If it was the same set, it would be."

The prosecution alleged that Mr Foulstone and his alleged accomplices, aged 45, from Milton, Tuxford, Nottinghamshire, was uncovered after the three children from his first marriage gave a newspaper interview saying they thought their father was hypocritical speaking during the miners' strike about how law and order must be upheld.

The trial continues on Monday.

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Ratio of parents on school trips 'should rise'

Mr David Paddison, one of the parent-helpers on the school trip to Land's End during which four Buckinghamshire boys drowned, said yesterday that he had recommended to the inquiry into the accident that the ratio of adults to children on such outings should be raised from one to twelve to one to five.

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TUC/BLACKPOOL Picket rights • Tunnel peace bid

Channel tunnel

Attempt to end unions' conflict

The TUC's Transport Industries Committee is to try to resolve the conflicting views of the seamen's union and the construction workers over the building of a Channel tunnel.

Mr Larry Smith, chairman of the committee, told the congress that as yet there was no clear scheme with government support. In the absence of such a definite proposal it would be difficult to assess the implications of a link.

A motion from the National Union of Seamen with amendments from the Union of Construction, Allied Trades, and Technicians and the Transport Salaried Staffs' Association and a motion from the National Union of Marine and Shipping Transport Officers were all remitted for consideration.

The seamen are concerned at the effect on jobs of a tunnel, saying that investment and employment-creating measures would be better applied in improving port facilities and in areas of high unemployment. The officers also regard ferry and air services as more efficient and cost-effective than a fixed link.

The construction workers believe that the building of tunnel sections in oil rig yards which are at present idle could provide much needed employment and the extra road and rail links may assist in achieving the congress policy of investment in the infrastructure.

Mr Smith, executive officer of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said his committee would examine all points made in both motions and the amendments.

"The general council are aware of the fears of workers in Dover and the South-east ports and they are equally conscious of the needs of railway and construction workers for new investment in their industries", Mr Smith said.

He told delegates that congress policy remained as decided in 1980 when it expressed support for the building of improved road, rail and passenger facilities at ferry ports and a rail-only Channel tunnel which should not be dependent upon the attraction of private risk capital.

Anti-gay bias

Demand for homosexual rights law

The congress carried overwhelmingly on a show of hands a motion calling on the unions to campaign for legislation to protect homosexual men and women from discrimination.

Miss Jill Cove, of the National Association of Probation Officers, moving it, said: "There are many lesbians and gays in this conference hall, in your branches and on your committees, whether you like it or not."

Miss Lucinda Broadbent, of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians, speaking in support, said: "I am a lesbian and a trade unionist. I would like to believe I am accepted as part of this movement without discrimination."



Norman Willis, Gavin Laird and Eric Hammond bridging troubled waters.

Public order law

Campaign to defend rights of peaceful protest

Reports by Stephen Goodwin, Howard Underwood and Barbara Day

A proposed new public order law would limit trade unionists' right to march, meet in protest and picket, Mr Aidan White, of the National Union of Journalists, warned delegates on the final day of the TUC Congress in Blackpool yesterday.

One of the most alarming aspects of the White Paper on public order being set before Parliament later this year was the greater power it gave to the police, he said.

He moved a motion, which was carried, calling on the TUC General Council:

● To campaign vigorously against the proposed restrictions; ● To press for legislative reforms extending citizens' rights of peaceful protest and picket;

● To liaise with other organizations campaigning against the proposals and ● To seek a meeting with the Home Secretary to demonstrate the extent of the congress's concern.

"In effect, according to the White Paper, the police will have discretion over who protests and how they protest", Mr White said. "In effect the police will be asked to play a part in enforcing unpopular government policy. They will become Maggie's militia, a sort of private army to shield the Thatcher Government from the glare of protest that its own policies are creating."

Prison threat to march organizers

Demonstrations and marches were part of normal community life. To suggest otherwise equated peaceful protest with violent hooliganism and disorder. In future any group of workers who walked out of their factory or office as a result, say, of a closed announcement and marched down the road could find themselves breaking the law.

Mr White said that march organizers could be fined up to £1,000 or sent to prison for

three months. Anyone who joins a march knowing that it was going against police conditions could be fined up to £400. The proposals gave a senior police officer the authority to limit a picket in size, location and duration.

A picket line which was held away from a workplace entrance, lasted for half an hour and was composed of only two or three people was worthless. Yet these were precisely the sort of conditions the police could impose, he said.

There should be a positive statutory right to demonstrate and picket. Such a law should be clear and unequivocal. Instead, the Government proposed legislation which would lead to further confusion further conflict on the ground and a further loss of confidence in the police.

Mr Bill Beaumont, general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, moving a resolution calling for an alternative criminal justice strategy, said the public was misinformed systematically about the penal system. It was told by the tabloids that the courts were soft when in truth Britain had the harshest penal system in Europe and it was getting harsher.

The motion, which was rejected, asked the general council to campaign for a reduction in the powers of the courts and of the de-criminalization of minor offences including vagrancy, loitering and soliciting, possession of cannabis and drunkenness.

It sought a prison amnesty for minor offenders, humane containment of all prisoners, the provision of resources for the further development of alternatives to custody and the provision of resources for crime prevention, victim support and reparation.

Mr David Evans, general secretary of the Prison Officers' Association, opposed the motion. He said it did not ask for an alternative criminal justice strategy. If it did, his members would support it. They had obtained the support of the

congress in adopting measures that helped them in their work and ameliorated the conditions in penal institutions. The motion, if implemented, would mean job losses for his members, he said.

Mr Anthony Christopher, general secretary of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation, said the general council was sympathetic to the main thrust of this motion and several points in it were already congress policy.

The congress intended to review the matter carefully but had strong reservations on certain aspects of the motion. For that reason, and without prejudice to its concern and determination to review, he asked the congress to oppose the proposals.

Public concern at rise in crime

The rise in crime and increasing violence were deeply worrying. The motion did not recognize the widespread public concern.

Mr Leslie Christie, of the Society of Public and Civil Servants, said that there had been disgusting misuse and abuse of the security services for party political purposes. Mr Christie was successfully moving a motion on civil liberties and freedom of information.

The congress should deplore the fact that active trade unionists could not go about the legitimate business of protecting members' interests without being bugged and subjected to surveillance.

The motion, which was carried, instructed the general council to organize a campaign for proper safeguards protecting the right of civil and public servants, other employees and trade union officials to belong to or sympathize with lawful political organizations without being considered a security risk. It also calls for the introduction of legislation to make the security and intelligence services fully accountable to Parliament.

Nuclear waste

Conference called on sea disposal

Mr Ray Buckton, chairman of the Social Insurance and Industrial Welfare Committee, reported to the congress on progress being made towards the TUC's aim of a complete ban on the dumping of nuclear waste at sea.

He reminded delegates that two years ago they debated a resolution calling for a two-year moratorium on the disposal of nuclear waste at sea and for a scientific study on the best alternative.

That resolution had achieved total success and had persuaded the Government to set up a committee chaired by Professor F. G. T. Holliday, of Durham University, which reported last autumn and endorsed the suspension of sea disposal while further studies were conducted, Mr Buckton said.

The TUC was preparing replies to points the Government had put to it at the end of July.

In addition, the general council was calling a conference of all interested unions to try to reach a definitive view.

● The congress also passed motions calling for a vigorous campaign for the retention and improvement of the wages council system and urging the TUC General Council to make a strong stand against the repeal of the Truck Acts.

Bonn spy suspect's car found at station

From Frank Johnson Bonn

The car of Frau Sonja Lüneburg, the Bonn minister's secretary who disappeared last month, was found in an underground parking area near Cologne's main railway station.

Yesterday it was being examined by experts from the federal police headquarters at Wiesbaden. It was said to be empty.

It was assumed here that Frau Lüneburg left her Bonn flat hurriedly, drove the 12 miles up the autobahn to Cologne. The city is the hub of the West German railway system, and it is easy to reach Berlin from there, and points further on.

It is by no means assumed now that her destination was East Berlin. East German sources have said she was not one of their agents. Whether this is simply disinformation cannot be ascertained at present.

But the assumption is that, if she was not working for the East Germans, she was working for the Soviet Union. Frau Lüneburg, aged 60 and unmarried, had been a secretary for many years to Herr Martin Bangemann, the Minister of Economics, and leader of West Germany's Free Democrats.

Her disappearance from Bonn was followed by the arrest on suspicion of spying of a secretary in the office of the West German President, the disappearance of another woman secretary, and of a male messenger, as well as the more spectacular defection of a counter-intelligence official, Herr Hans Joachim Tiedge.

Chancellor Kohl has given more proof of the lengths to which Bonn is going to prevent the scandal from harming relations with East Germany.

He took the opportunity during a speech in a debate on the economy to make his first public remarks about the effect of the affair on these relations and they were remarkably relaxed.

Dialogue and co-operation must continue, he said. "Even if we rightly express our dismay in public about the latest espionage cases."

The closest Herr Kohl came to complaining about East German espionage was when he said it did not exactly foster relations. His attitude is perhaps the best proof so far that Ostpolitik, which he denounced when in opposition, is now the majority view.

Soares braced for election ordeal

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

The Portuguese Prime Minister, Dr Mario Soares, is facing one of the most crucial periods of his political career with two elections to fight within the next four months.

On October 6, parliamentary elections will determine whether his Socialist Party can maintain its standing as the largest party or lose it to the rival Social Democrats, who, with their close allies the conservative Christian Democrats, could obtain a new majority.

In January, presidential elections, in which Dr Soares is one of three main candidates, will determine whether he will realize his crowning ambition to become President of Portugal or lose to one of the other strong contenders - Dr Diogo Freitas do Amaral, the conservative former leader of the Christian Democrats, or Dr Maria Lurdes Pintasilgo, the left-wing Catholic activist, who was Prime Minister for 100 days in 1979.

Dr Soares is optimistically aiming to win 43 per cent in the parliamentary elections. The Socialists represent 36.3 per cent of the electorate today (their vote in the 1983 elections). We need only 7 per cent more for a majority," he said at a press conference this week.

However, poor showings in public opinion polls this summer tend to put in doubt the ability of the Socialists to approach this figure. They gave the Socialists only 28 per cent as

UK and Nigeria ready to mend fences

Lagos puzzle for Howe

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the former Transport Minister, Foreign Secretary, is to go ahead with his planned trip to Nigeria on Monday even though it is still unclear exactly what his host will be.

Sir Geoffrey was originally invited to Nigeria by the Minister in President Bush's Administration. But Dr Canagodo was removed from office in a coup which toppled the Buhari Government. A successor has not yet been named.

Formal confirmation of the invitation was received in London only on Thursday, simply in the name of the federal Government of Nigeria, which has been headed by Major-General Ibrahim Babangida.

Sir Geoffrey's determination to go ahead with the visit underscores Britain's desire to improve relations with Lagos after the strain caused by the Dikko affair in July 1984, when the Nigerian authorities tried to kidnap Mr Umaru Dikko, the

one without trial, has been released since the coup.

Mr Malcolm Bruce, Liberal MP for Gordon, the constituency of the two now on trial, said after a meeting with Sir Geoffrey on Thursday that he was fairly optimistic they would soon be released. The trial is expected to end next week.

If Nigeria presses for Mr Dikko's return Sir Geoffrey will explain that his appeal against extradition from Britain is still being considered.

Sir Geoffrey will urge Nigeria to accept the conditions, including the devaluation of its naira, laid down by the International Monetary Fund for a £2 billion loan. Negotiations have hung fire since President Buhari took over at the end of 1983.

The loan is seen as essential to Nigeria's economic recovery. Britain wants to see that economy buoyant again. Despite recent political and economic problems, Nigeria remains Britain's largest market in Africa and receives about £2 billion in British investment.

One Briton, Mr Graham Coveyduck, held for nearly a

Kohl fails to sell jobs policy to unions

From Frank Johnson Bonn

Chancellor Helmut Kohl and his economics ministers appear to have been unable to persuade the unions to agree that recent laws making it possible for employers to take on labour at lower than previous union rates should decrease unemployment.

The first talks between the Government, employers and unions since the Kohl Government came to power in October 1982, ended here without agreement on how to deal with unemployment. This was unsurprising, since the debate on the subject is essentially the same as in Britain.

The unions insisted that only public works programme, and fiscal policies intended to create demand, would solve the problem. The Government seems to hold to the view that unemployment is caused mainly by the unions making employment too expensive.

But the Government is now showing a lot of concern. The unemployment figure is 8.9 per cent, the highest since 1975, and British standards are very high by the standards of Federal Germany.

The Government is already viewing the problem in the light of the 1987 election. The unions know this and see no reason why they should not be being blamed on them.

Strike over safety shuts mines in Spain

From Richard Wigg Madrid

All activity was stopped throughout Spain's main coal-mining regions yesterday in the second day of a 48-hour protest strike, against deaths in the mines this year. So far the toll, Asturias and Castile-Leon alone is 42.

The coal-miners struck as desperate attempts were being made to rescue four miners buried alive on Wednesday by a sudden fall of almost 2,000 tons of coal in a privately owned mine in the mountains near Oviedo, Asturias.

The pro-Socialist miners' union joined with the Communist union to call the strike in the two northern regions and in criticizing the government's failure to enforce mine safety legislation in privately owned pits.

Señor José Saavedra, the Socialist National Mineworkers' leader, complained that Prime Felipe González, the Prime Minister, has still given no answer to union plans for greater mine safety expressed when they met him in February.

Mining engineers have pointed to a characteristically difficult access to coal seams in Spain and to the authorities tolerating the practice of engaging miners on piece rates at small pits in remote areas as factors heightening the risks. Unemployment in the regions also makes many miners eager to take any work.

'Times' back in Malta

From Austin Sammut, Valletta

The Times was back on newsstands in Malta on Thursday after an absence of 46 years. The Government, backed its sale in March 1984, after the paper declined to publish replies by the Government to an article on law-courts reform. People with subscriptions received copies by post throughout the period of the ban.

On Monday the Rome correspondent of The Times, Mr Peter Nichols, interviewed Malta's Prime Minister, Dr Carmelo Mifsud Bonnici. This report appeared in yesterday's edition.

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Nuclear waste Conference called on sea disposal

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Peking picks younger security ministers

Peking (Reuters) - China replaced its heads of police and state security yesterday in a Government reshuffle which brought younger people to head five ministries.

Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister, nominated a deputy mayor of Shanghai, Mr Ruan Chongwu, aged 55, as Public Security Minister in place of Mr Liu Fuchang, who had held the post since June 1983.

Mr Ruan, a fluent German speaker, was formerly deputy director of a scientific research institute and a diplomat in Bonn. Diplomats said he was a firm backer of Mr Deng Xiaoping's policies of modernization and opening China to the world.

One Western diplomat said

his appointment was a surprise as he had been tipped for a more technological post.

The head of the State Security Ministry is the youngest of the new appointments. Mr Jia Chunwang, aged 47. He was formerly deputy secretary of the Peking Communist Party committee and worked in the Party's Youth League and organized Communists at the elite Qinghua University.

He replaces Mr Lin Xun, who has headed the ministry since it was founded two years ago on similar lines to the Soviet KGB.

Western diplomats said the changes were part of a programme to rejuvenate the leadership and did not represent an important shift in policy.

Militias line up against Amal as PLO camps come under fire

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

The war of the camps has started again with a vengeance. All yesterday's Shia Muslim Amal militiamen sprayed anti-aircraft fire over the grey ruins of Bourj al-Barajneh with a ferocity unequalled since the battles of last June, smothering the Palestinian camp in a curtain of smoke and dust. But encountering little resistance from the Palestine Liberation Organization men inside.

Just why the conflict should have re-started - and at the very moment when the Druze are also fighting Amal - is one of the more intriguing political as well as military questions to be answered in Beirut.

Suffice it to say, however, that the Palestinians and the Druze militia are now virtually allies in the city and have already been joined by the remnants of the Sunni Morabitoun militia, which Amal thought it had wiped out earlier in the year. Put bluntly, Amal, arguably the biggest private army in Lebanon, is now under grave military threat.

Even as the first shells were

falling across the camp yesterday morning, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine issued a statement in Damascus, Tripoli and Sidon, accusing Amal of massacring 44 Palestinian men, women and children by throwing them from a four-storey apartment block.

There was no evidence of this around the camp yesterday, although the fighting later became so savage that the Lebanese Army's Shia Muslim Sixth Brigade was later induced to bring up an American-made M48 tank to shell the slums.

I found the vehicle yesterday, parked on a dirt road near a mosque on the airport highway, its scruffy crew cheerfully traversing the tank's barrel with their arms to direct their fire on to the camp, which is still filled with civilians.

On the airport road, soldiers standing atop an armoured troop carrier were firing thousands of heavy machine-gun rounds across the broken houses.

Saudi-US defence link

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The Reagan Administration said yesterday that Saudi Arabia had no agreement with the United States on the use of Saudi military facilities, but had "long-standing relationships based on mutual interest in the stability of the Arabian peninsula region".

"When US assistance has been requested and provided in response to specific threats, the facilities necessary to support such assistance have been made available", the State Department spokesman said.

The spokesman thus indirectly confirmed a New York Times report which said that a recent Administration study had stated that, although the

Saudis had resisted formal access agreements, "they have stated that access will be forthcoming for US forces as necessary to counter Soviet aggression or in regional crises they cannot manage on their own".

The study said that any large-scale American military operation in the Gulf and south-west Asia "will likely depend on Saudi co-operation and support".

The newspaper report said this disclosure came in a 17-page summary of a longer classified policy study by the Administration on American Middle East arms sales recently submitted to Congress.

Athens asks Arabs to oppose terror

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece asked the Arab governments yesterday to co-operate in combating terrorism, after bomb outrages against hotels claimed by Muslim radicals and the arrest of an armed Palestinian youth in Athens.

Mr Karolos Papoulias, the Greek Foreign Minister, called in the Arab ambassadors and the diplomatic representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and urged them to convey to their governments Greece's desire for close co-operation in combating terrorism "by all means".

The minister reassured the Arab envoys of his Government's continuing support for the Arab cause and emphasized that the recent incidents had created an unfavourable atmosphere at the expense of Greece and of Greek-Arab relations.

An official statement said the Arab ambassadors had met earlier to examine the "new defamatory campaign launched by certain circles, following the regrettable incidents in Athens".

recently, which are aimed at hurting the excellent Greek-Arab relations. They assured Mr Papoulias that their governments were willing to co-operate.

Earlier, Greece had rejected criticism that it had been lax in cases of international terrorism. Mr Kostas Laliotis, the Greek Government spokesman, told journalists on Thursday that the Government had been "neither tolerant nor lenient" towards terrorists, but had taken effective action against them. He did not elaborate.

Defections: Nine more deputies defected yesterday from "New Democracy", the conservative opposition party and joined forces with Mr Kostas Stefanopoulos who announced the formation of a new political party under his leadership to be known as the "Democratic Renewal".

The breakaway group intends to issue its manifesto today, outlining its targets and methods.

Tourist burnt to death by mob in India

Delhi (AFP) - An angry mob in the Srinagar Valley burnt to death an Australian tourist they suspected of being a child kidnapper, police in the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir said yesterday. The mob also manhandled a Japanese tourist.

Mr Jonathan Armstrong, aged 28, of Canberra, was beaten and thrown into a lake last Monday, then doused with petrol and set on fire. More than 100 people had been arrested in connection with the incident.

The Australian High Commission here confirmed Mr Armstrong's nationality. Residents said there was a rumour in the valley that foreigners were kidnapping children for use in cancer research in the United States. Another rumour was that traders were kidnapping them to export their skulls.

Two jailed for massacre at children's zoo

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

Two teenagers who used knives and an iron bar to slaughter 44 animals in the children's section of Adelaide Zoo were jailed for three years yesterday.

Paul Jaensch and Roger Hazel, both aged 18, killed kangaroos, rabbits, goats, antelope, a llama and an alligator and smaller animals on the night of March 2. Some had their throats slashed; others were stabbed and disemboweled or beaten to death.

Mr Justice Ian Burnett said in the Central District Criminal Court that the youths had ridden bicycles to the zoo with the clear intention of killing. The wanton savagery of the slaughter was beyond comprehension. "It indicates two people who were really out of control."

NZ's surprise choice

From Richard Long, Wellington

New Zealand has appointed a diplomat, Mr Bryce Harland, as its new High Commissioner to London, breaking a tradition as old as the country's oldest diplomatic post.

Politicians have previously preserved the position, regarded as the top overseas post, for a political appointee and usually a retired Cabinet minister.

While the appointment of Mr Harland, aged 54, who is now New Zealand's permanent representative to the United Nations, is being read as a move to place the country's relationship on a professional footing and to improve contacts with Whitehall, there are other factors.

There is a very small pool of retired Labour Cabinet ministers in New Zealand from which to draw, and the Government did not wish to appoint a present minister for fear of a repeat of the Tamaru by-election three months ago in which Labour lost a seat it had held for half a century.

The Government's attempts to interest business leaders also failed, largely, it is suggested, because the salary simply was not enough.

Mr Harland, who has served in Singapore, Bangkok, New York and Washington, is known for his incisive reports and for his zeal in arguing a policy.



Mr Mahmoud Hable, centre, a Lebanese, with his Shia Muslim Amal captors in Sidon, who accuse him of collaboration with Israel. Mr Hable had headed the Israeli-backed "home guard" during Israel's occupation of Sidon.

Israeli censors ban play about army brutality

Tel Aviv (AP) - Israeli censors have banned a new play showing brutality by Israeli troops in the West Bank.

The film and stage censorship board told the management of Haifa's municipal theatre that parts of the play could damage the Army and incite violence, and would outrage the Jewish public by comparing Israel's West Bank occupation and Nazi rule in occupied Europe.

Airborne Iranians seize ship

Bahrain (Reuters, AP) - Iranian planes bombed an Iraqi oilfield and helicopter-borne Iranian troops seized an Italian ship in the Gulf yesterday after Iraq reported its fifth air raid on the Kharg Island oil terminal in three weeks.

The Iranian troops seized the Italian container ship Merzuria Britannia, 22,425 tons, about 55 miles off the Saudi Arabian port of Jubail, after landing on its deck from a helicopter. Gulf shipping

sources quoted its master as saying.

The captain said after the ship was released that five or six Iranian commandos landed aboard and were joined later by others in tugs. He said the Iranians inspected cargo and then allowed him to proceed on to Kuwait.

On Wednesday night the Iranian Navy intercepted the Kuwait-registered container ship Al-Wattyan, just outside

the Strait of Hormuz at the entrance to the Gulf, and diverted it for inspection.

Iranian officials said the ship, belonging to a firm part-owned by Iraq, and its 26-man Japanese crew would be released when cargo for Iraq had been unloaded.

Meanwhile, Iraq said yesterday that its planes had dropped four tons of bombs on Kharg Island in its fifth raid on the terminal since August 15.

Priority for economic goals

Key men keep Cairo Cabinet jobs

Cairo (Reuters) - The new action - and named an extra Egyptian Prime Minister, Mr Ali Lutfi, named his Cabinet on Thursday night, bringing in only eight new Ministers and keeping most of his predecessor's team.

The men in charge of foreign affairs, defence, economic planning and agriculture kept their jobs and were made Deputy Prime Ministers.

Mr Lutfi, aged 49, an economist, was appointed on Wednesday by President Hosni Mubarak, who told him to work for stable economic growth. He replaced Mr Kamal Hassan Ali, a soldier-politician who headed the Government for 14 months. He told reporters he would concentrate on solving Egypt's economic problems.

His Cabinet list of more than 30 ministers, which he announced after 24 hours of talks with candidates, showed he was sticking to the mandate given him by President Mubarak.

He put new men in charge of housing, tourism, cultural affairs, immigration, health, education and higher education - most of which the President earmarked last night for priority Cabinet jobs.

Mr Lutfi named the following four Deputy Prime Ministers - Field Marshal Muhammad Abdul-Halim, Abu Ghazala (Defence Minister), Mr Ahmad Ismat Abdul-Maguis (Foreign), Mr Yussif Wali (Agriculture) and Mr Kamal Ahmad Ganzuri (Planning and International Co-operation).

New ministers appointed were: Ministers of People's Assembly and Shura Council (Senate): Muhammad Abdul-Hamid Radwan (former Culture Minister) and Sayad Ali al-Sayad; Housing: Abdul Rahman Labib; Tourism: Fuad Sultan; Health: Helmi Hadidi; Culture: Ahmad Haid; Higher Education: Fathi Muhammad Ali; Education: Mansur Hussain.

Mr Naguib William Sefeen was appointed Minister of State for Immigration and Egyptians living abroad, a job traditionally held by a Christian. President Mubarak is due to chair the first meeting of the Cabinet today.

Campus occupation ends

Guatemala City (NYT) - Soldiers occupying Guatemala's main university returned it to civilian control yesterday. They had been sent to the campus on Tuesday after several days of anti-government violence.

A government spokesman said two people had been killed during the clashes, but official reports indicated that the toll was several times higher. Most of the dead are believed to have been shot.

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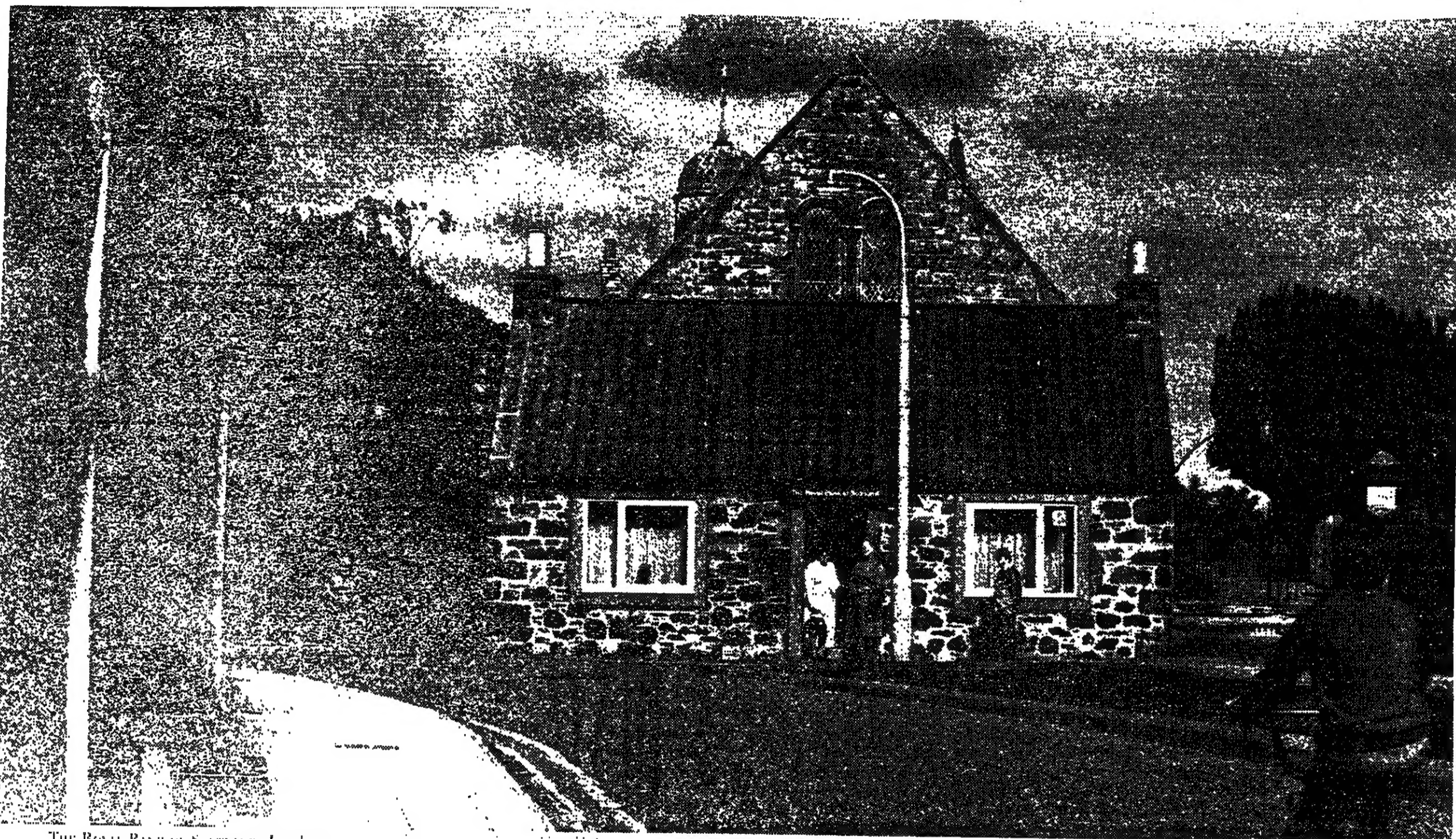
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Eye-openers for Gorbachov on his Siberian walkabout

From Richard Owen, Moscow

By continuing to take his case for economic efficiency to the people, in direct encounters with workers and housewives, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov seems to be maintaining the wide-spread popularity he won six months ago on taking office, coming across on television as a human and energetic personality.

In his latest foray - to the oil and gas regions of Siberia - he has often looked as if he were canvassing votes in a democratic election instead of issuing instructions from on high.

The drawback of this approach is that he has run into some of the popular grievances genuinely democratic politicians have to deal with. In Siberia these took the form of oilworkers telling Mr Gorbachov a few home truths about the abysmal quality of the equipment they have to use.

He was only momentarily disconcerted, "there are proposals," he said, punching the air with his fist and slamming it into the palm of his other hand. The workers in their hardhats and grimy overalls watched him trim figure in his familiar tunic.

"We will help you. We have taken big decisions. We did not elaborate. They have your support." "We support you," they replied.

"Good, good. Without the support of the people, politics is nothing," Mr Gorbachov added before turning away.

Mr Gorbachov, accompanied as usual by his stylish wife Raisa, was visiting the Tyumen

region of western Siberia. His walkabouts in the Ukraine and in Minsk this summer lacked the impact of his first "meet the people" exercise in Leningrad after becoming leader, but Siberia was a canny choice. It is a key economic region, associated in Russian minds more with romantic notions of pioneering and engineering feats than with political prisoners.

Mr Gorbachov went to a gas compressor station, and at the vast Tyumen oilfields assured the workers they would be getting new equipment even better than imported French and other West European technology.

"Tyumen is falling behind," he said. "This should not happen."

Tyumen produces 60 per cent of Soviet oil output, but production has been declining for the past two years. The oil is used, not only for domestic consumption but also to earn valuable hard currency on the world market. There have been accounts in the Soviet press of incompetence in the Tyumen oil and gas fields, with delays in drilling wells and laying pipes, and the oil minister was replaced earlier this year.

Mr Gorbachov later visited Surgut, on the Ob river in the heart of the Siberian oilfields, and Urengoi, the starting point of the once controversial Siberian-West European gas pipeline. At Tyumen he addressed a special conference to underline the Kremlin's concern over Soviet energy industries.

Leading article, page 11

Russians bar way of wheeling athlete

From Richard Owen, Moscow

A young disabled Canadian athlete on a wheelchair world tour to raise money for spinal cord research has been refused permission to complete the Soviet leg of his one-man mission, apparently because the authorities do not wish to draw attention to the lack of facilities for the disabled in Russia.

Instead Mr Rick Hansen, who won the marathon and 1500-metre races at the Paralympic Olympics at Stoke Mandeville last July, will fly to Poland on Sunday and resume his "wheeling" in Gdansk.

Mr Hansen is the model of a spirited and fit athlete, except that he does not have the use of his legs. He began his tour in Vancouver in March, travelling 70 miles a day through America, Britain and West Europe before reaching Russia via Scandinavia.

He had hoped to carry on wheeling down the highway from Leningrad to Moscow, but extensive negotiations with the ministries of health, sport, social welfare and foreign affairs produced a firm "no". Even a symbolic wheelchair run through the streets of Moscow was ruled out.

The Russians have large numbers of disabled people, including those injured in the Second World War and in Afghanistan, and victims of road accidents. But they are kept out of sight in institutions, and there are almost no facilities for them. Russia does not manufacture wheelchairs and is importing some.

Mrs Amanda Reid-Blackmore, Mr Hansen's physiotherapist, said the Russians had made it clear they did not feel "comfortable" with the idea of allowing him to appear on Soviet streets, and had emphasized the problem of ensuring his safety on Soviet roads.

Mr Hansen said he was disappointed but was grateful to the Russians for allowing him to come to Moscow and for discussing paralympic athletics with him. East Germany had turned his request down flat, he said.

Mr Nikolai Kondrashev, head of the Soviet Prosthetics Central Research Institute, said Russia's programme for the disabled was still "in the early stages", but the Soviet Union hoped to take part in the paralympic Olympics by the end of the decade.

Mr Hansen has completed 7,000 miles of his 25,000-mile marathon. He has raised \$750,000 (£450,000) to finance the tour and hopes to raise \$10 million for research and wheelchair sports.



Mr Reagan holding a "Tax Champ" basketball pullover presented to him by a costumed mascot at North Carolina State University in Raleigh. Mr Reagan was in the town to speak about tax reform.

Washington looking both ways on South Africa

US decries the spiral of violence

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The Reagan Administration has strongly condemned the increasing violence in South Africa and urged the Government and black leaders to take bold and courageous moves to begin negotiations.

The State Department, in a strongly worded statement, condemned as irresponsible the outlawed African National Congress (ANC) call for greater violence and at the same time called for an end to the use of "excessive force" by police battling black unrest.

The statement, on Thursday, declared: "The situation in South Africa is so tense that it will take bold and courageous moves, both on the part of the South African Government and representative black leaders, to create circumstances in which common ground can be found and negotiations can begin."

Referring to allegations of police brutality, the statement said: "The South African Government must act with the greatest restraint in protecting the rights of all South Africans. The use of excessive force has contributed to the increased level of violence. Violence in South Africa is at such a stage that the use of force is, unfortunately, more and more common. These acts must stop."

"For this reason, we condemn the ANC's call for greater violence. Such an attitude is irresponsible in the tragic circumstances."

Reagan apologizes for apartheid gaffe

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan apologized yesterday for "carelessly" giving the impression that racial segregation in South Africa had been "totally eliminated in areas where it hasn't". He said he was not nearly as ill-informed as many people had made out.

His apology came in remarks at the White House to reporters who had been summoned to hear a statement on the new unemployment figures. But South Africa dominated the questioning.

He was asked if he still believed his recent remark that South Africa had ended segregation. "No, and I didn't intend to say that," he said.

"I may have been careless in my language on that one thing but I was talking about

improvements that actually do exist there and have been made," he added. "I know that segregation has not been eliminated totally and in some areas there has been no improvement. But there has been a great improvement over what has ever existed before."

A reporter said: "But there are no votes there, no participation (by blacks)." Mr Reagan replied: "No, no, no, I was talking about the specific things, of segregation of labour, and the new things that have taken place with regard to labour and things of that kind."

Mr Reagan spent much of yesterday in talks with White House officials on how to head off a damaging political battle with Congress over the imposition of sanctions against the Pretoria Government.

Runcie tells Botha to talk

From Johan Best, Ottawa

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, has called on President P. W. Botha of South Africa to accept his "Christian responsibility" and hold talks with black African leaders.

Speaking at a luncheon and press conference in Montreal on Thursday afternoon, Dr Runcie again warned the South African Government not to lay hands on Bishop Desmond Tutu of Johannesburg.

Anglican churches worldwide had made it clear to Pretoria that "if you touch Desmond

Tutu, you don't just touch somebody South African but a world family is concerned."

Asked whether his call to President Botha to hold talks with responsible black leaders meant, primarily, Mr Nelson Mandela, imprisoned leader of the African National Congress, the Archbishop nodded agreement.

Anglican leaders in South Africa are of sympathy with the difficulties facing the white population," Dr Runcie said. "They know that many of them are frightened and want to look back rather than forward."

Eight dead in Santiago slum riots

Santiago (Reuters) - Two more people were shot dead last night as Chile's security forces clashed with demonstrators in Santiago slums, taking the death toll to eight in two days of anti-government protests, witnesses said.

A youth aged 18 was shot dead from an unmarked car when a crowd tried to loot a supermarket and another man died in a similar incident.

Hospital sources said a girl aged four and a man aged 56 were critically ill from bullet wounds, and another girl aged six was shot in the leg.

Demonstrators threw up barricades of stones and burning tyres in several parts of the city. They hurled rocks and petrol bombs at police and troops, who responded with tear gas, buckshot and machine-guns fired into the air.

Residents said the clashes were less widespread than on Wednesday night, but more intense in the city's roughest areas.

More than 100 students were arrested during fresh disturbances on Santiago campuses, where police used tear gas to flush out demonstrators.

The Government, meanwhile, brought charges under security laws against organizers of Wednesday's protest in support of a return to democracy after 12 years of military rule under President Pinochet.

Thirteen people have already been charged, among them the opposition trade union leaders, Señor Rodolfo Seguel and Señor Manuel Bustos. At least 100 would be prosecuted, authorities said.

Repair may have led to Boeing disaster

New York (NYT) - Investigators looking into the crash of the Japan Air Lines Boeing 747 last month have found evidence of improper rear-cabin repairs that could have led to the disaster, according to authorities involved in the inquiry.

The repairs were made to the pressure bulkhead in the rear of the main passenger cabin after the plane made a landing in 1978 that was so severe it injured 30 people on board.

Examination of the bulkhead after the crash last month, in which 520 people were killed, has shown that a single line of rivets was used for part of the repair instead of the double line of rivets called for in the manual, the informants said.

The repairs were made by a team sent to Japan by the Boeing Co. The bulkhead, shaped somewhat like an umbrella canopy, is at the very back of the passenger cabin, it separates the cabin, which is highly pressurized in flight, from the unpressurized tail cone of the plane.

Spoils of war

Rennes (Reuters) - Napoleon's field glasses used at the battle of Austerlitz have been stolen by thieves who broke into a 15th century chateau in Brittany and escaped with valuables worth over £90,000. They also stole hair from Louis XVI's horse.

Out of tune

Lucerne (Reuters) - A fall-out and two sons, members of the Staatskapelle Dresden orchestra, failed to return to East Germany after an appearance at a music festival here, festival organizers said.

Jailed poet dies

Cologne (AFP) - The Ukrainian poet and writer Vassili Stus, aged 47, died in a prison camp in the Urals after having spent 12 years in detention, two human rights organizations reported.

Taylor award

Paris (Reuters) - Elizabeth Taylor is to receive France's highest cultural distinction - Commander of Arts and Letters - for her cinema career of more than 30 years.

Long-term loan

Trenton, New Jersey (AP) - A library book missing from the Free Library of Trenton for the last 188 years has been returned from Haverford College in Pennsylvania.

Correction

France has 550 examining magistrates, not 50 as stated yesterday. Many are young and inexperienced.

Bombs rock US missile base in West Germany

Heidelberg (Reuters) - Three bombs exploded yesterday at a US ground-to-air missile base in West Germany, damaging three radar installations. Authorities said supporters of the Red Army Faction guerrilla group might have been responsible.

The bombs were planted beside the installations at the base near Nofeldten, in Saarland and exploded soon after dawn, causing severe damage but no injuries, a spokesman at US Army headquarters in Heidelberg said.

The blasts were the latest in a series since a car bomb exploded at the US Rhein Main air base near Frankfurt on August 8, killing two Americans and injuring 20. The Red Army Faction has said it carried out that attack and murdered a US soldier for his identity card to gain entry to the base. No one

has yet claimed responsibility for the latest attack.

The Federal Prosecutor's office said yesterday it was hunting three suspected Red Army Faction leaders for the murder of a West German arms industry executive in Munich in February. It named them as Barbara and Horst Meyer and Eva Hauke-Frimpong.

Yesterday's attack came five days after bomb blasts damaged the offices of two computer firms in Hamburg and Dortmund. The Revolutionary Cells group, which is known to have links with the Red Army Faction, has said it was responsible.

A radio mast was damaged on August 15 in a bomb attack carried out at a US supply depot by a group seeking the release of jailed Red Army Faction guerrillas.

Germans jail Soviet trade chief

Düsseldorf (AP) - A West German court yesterday sentenced a Soviet trade mission official to three years in jail for trying to obtain electronic equipment banned for export to communist countries.

Mr Yevgeni Mikhailovich Semliakov, an engineer, aged 38, was attached to the Soviet trade mission in Cologne and did not have diplomatic immunity.

Judge Klaus Wagner, who presided over the four-day trial at the North Rhine-Westphalian state High Court, said Mr Semliakov was a "top trained official" of either the KGB or the military intelligence agency.

Mr Semliakov, who was head of foreign trade at the mission, was found guilty of trying to obtain advanced equipment from an electronics firm in Remscheid, near Düsseldorf. He had denied the charges.

He contacted an employee of the firm several times between January, 1984, and April this year, when he was arrested.

The employee, who was not identified, contacted West German authorities after he was approached by Mr Semliakov. Several items banned for export to communist countries because they can be used for military purposes were among equipment sought by Mr Semliakov.



Some of an estimated 10,000 members of Jewish groups, who demonstrated at New York City Hall against the building of a huge garbage incinerator in Brooklyn Navy Yard, near their homes.

Bonanno refuses to testify against Mafia: jailed for contempt

Tucson, Arizona (NYT) - Joseph Bonanno, a leading figure in the history of organized crime, went to jail here after refusing to testify about a "commission" governing the Mafia.

Sitting in a lecture room at St Mary's hospital here on Thursday, where the questioning took place because of his high blood pressure and other ailments, Bonanno repeatedly refused to answer questions from a New York prosecutor.

"My doctors instructed me not to testify to protect my life, that's my answer."

men accused of being top leaders of organized crime in New York City.

The prosecutor, Mr Rudolph Giuliani, the US attorney for the southern district of New York, wants to use Bonanno to show the history of the commission of Mafia leaders.

Mr Giuliani said Bonanno had provided testimony here for a grand jury on November 20 about becoming a commission member. The prosecutor displayed a copy of Bonanno's autobiography, which described the commission.

The judge ruled that Bonanno's behaviour was an "absolute refusal" to testify. Bonanno, who is not charged with a crime, was

granted immunity from prosecution for anything he testified about.

Unless he agrees to testify, Bonanno, who was in retirement in Tucson, could be held in jail until the end of the New York trial, which is to begin on March 17.

According to the indictment for the trial, beginning in March, the Commission regulates drug dealing, extortion, gambling and labour racketeering and resolves disputes between "Cosa Nostra" families.

The defendants include five men named as the bosses of the New York families, making them members of the commission, and six men named as top associates.

Karpov fights back to salvage a point

Brilliant defence salvaged half a point for Anatoly Karpov in his critical adjourned game from the second round of the Moscow World Chess Championship. At adjournment on move 41, Kasparov had held the advantage of rook and two pawns for bishop and knight, but on move 43 with R-R1 he sacrificed his advanced king's pawn to exchange one pair of rooks and highlight the advantage of his remaining passed pawn on the queen's rook file.

But by deft manoeuvres Karpov succeeded in surrounding this pawn and a draw was agreed.

Second game

White Karpov, Black Kasparov

Sicilian Defence

1 P-K4 P-K4 2 N-K3 N-K3

3 P-Q4 P-Q4 4 N-P3 N-P3

5 P-Q3 P-Q3 6 B-K2 B-K2

7 P-O3 B-K2 8 P-K4 P-K4

9 R-K1 B-K2 10 P-Q4 N-K3

11 B-K2 B-K2 12 B-K2 B-K2

13 B-K2 B-K2 14 B-K2 B-K2

15 B-K2 B-K2 16 B-K2 B-K2

17 B-K2 B-K2 18 B-K2 B-K2

19 B-K2 B-K2 20 B-K2 B-K2

21 B-K2 B-K2 22 P-K3 B-K2

23 P-K3 B-K2 24 P-K3 B-K2

25 P-K3 B-K2 26 P-K3 B-K2

27 P-K3 B-K2 28 P-K3 B-K2

29 P-K3 B-K2 30 P-K3 B-K2

31 P-K3 B-K2 32 P-K3 B-K2

33 P-K3 B-K2 34 P-K3 B-K2

35 P-K3 B-K2 36 P-K3 B-K2

37 P-K3 B-K2 38 P-K3 B-K2

39 P-K3 B-K2 40 P-K3 B-K2

41 P-K3 B-K2 42 P-K3 B-K2

43 P-K3 B-K2 44 P-K3 B-K2

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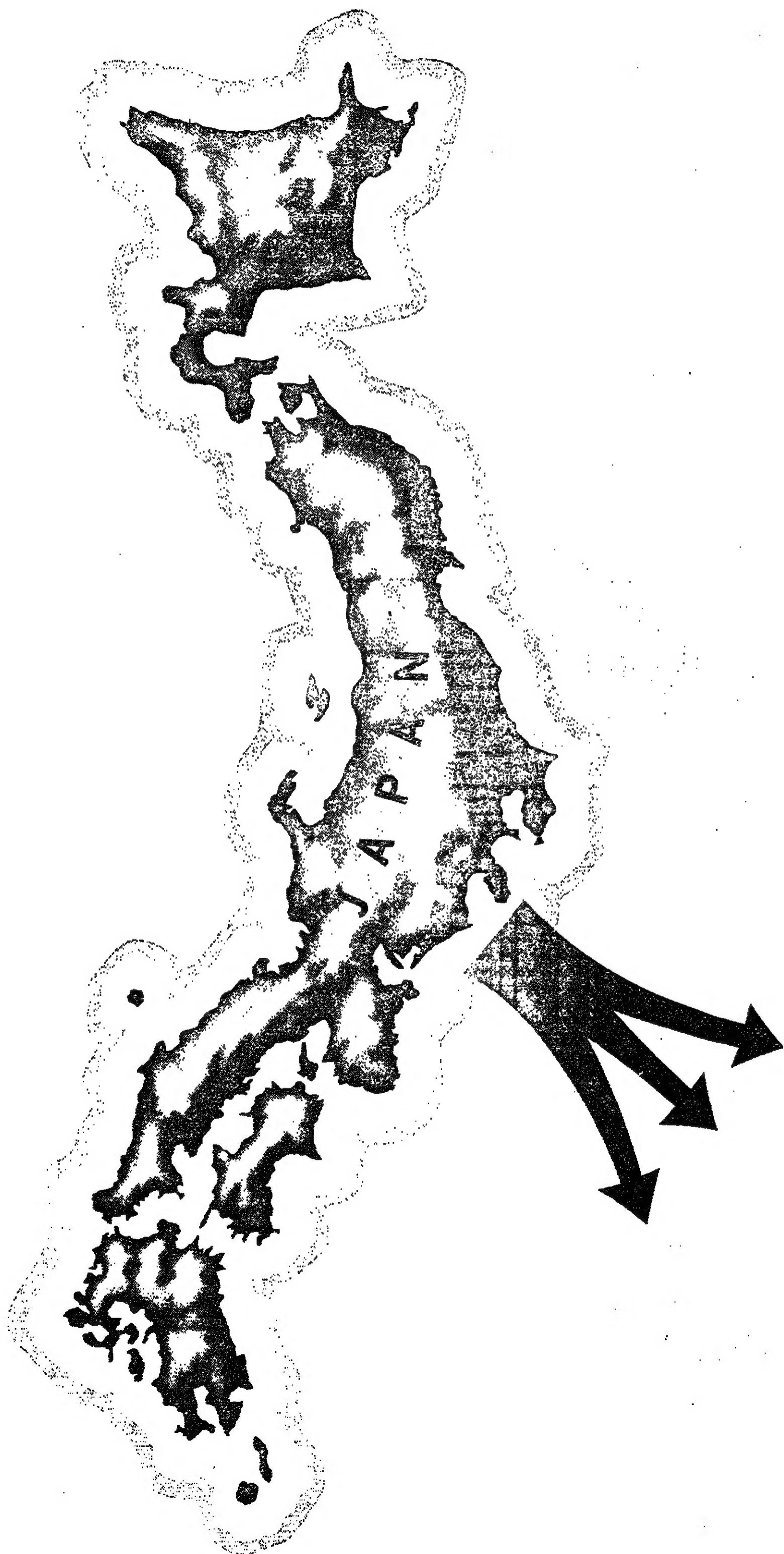
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153 P-K3 B-K2 154 P-K3 B-K2

155 P-K3 B-K2 156 P-K3 B-K2

In the last 11 years Nissans have been exported by a small island with a highly skilled workforce.



In Japan, the people who build Nissans have a variety of skills and they're encouraged to use them.

There aren't the strict job demarcations that have done the British motor industry so much harm.

New ideas and ways of working are welcomed.

So people are more involved, more satisfied, more employable, less bored and better paid.

There isn't a wide gap between managers and workers: the general manager of the Nissan factory in Tokyo wears the same work clothes as the men on the line.

And every morning, workers and management get together to see how they can make things better.

The relationship is friendly and constructive. There's also an agreement designed to make disputes unnecessary. Consequently there's never been a strike. No-one has ever been made redundant either.

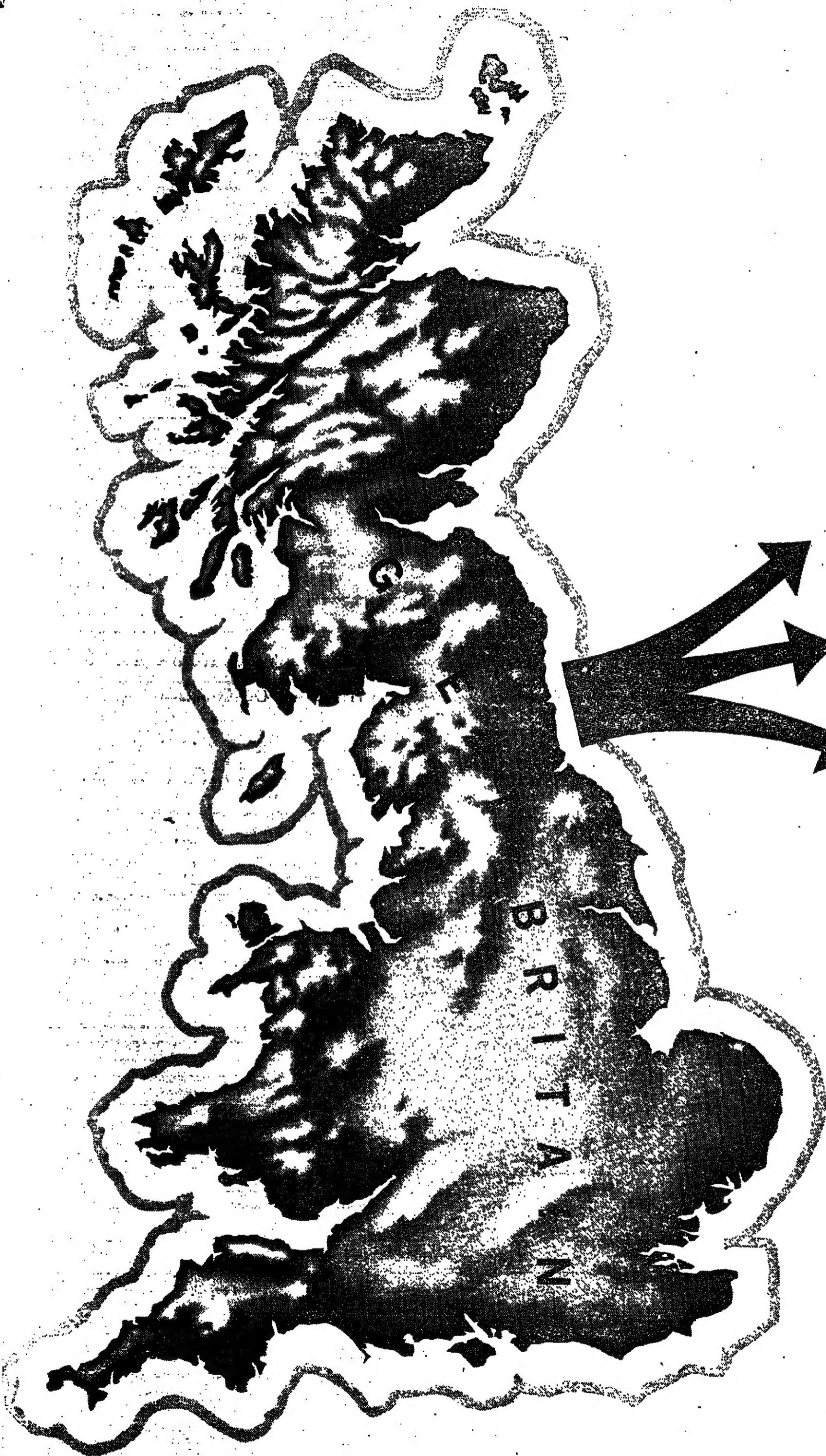
As a result, the cars these people make are better. To the extent that every one has a 100,000 mile/3 year warranty.

In 1984, the 1,000,000th Nissan made the thirty-day sea crossing from Japan to England.

In fact, they've been the top imported car in Britain for eleven years running.

 **NISSAN**
They don't half work.

In the next 11 years Nissans should be exported
by a small island with a highly skilled workforce.



In England, the people who will build Nissans have a variety of skills and they'll be encouraged to use them.

There won't be the strict job demarcations that have done the British motor industry so much harm.

New ideas and ways of working will be welcomed.

So people will be more involved, more satisfied, more employable, less bored and better paid.

There won't be a wide gap between managers and workers: the general manager of Nissan's new Sunderland factory will wear the same work clothes as the men on the line.

And every morning, workers and management will get together to see how they can make things better.

The relationship will be friendly and constructive. Already there's an agreement with the AUEW which has been designed to make disputes unnecessary. No-one should ever need to be made redundant either.

As a result, the cars these people will make will be better. To the extent that every one will have a 100,000 mile/3 year warranty.

In the 1990's, over 100,000 Nissans a year should be made in Britain. Many of them will cross the sea to Europe.

In fact, they could very soon become the top imported car in Europe.

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A POLITICAL PIG IN A POKE

It has been a good year for the Alliance parties. They have done well in two parliamentary elections (the candidates happened to be Liberals in each case), capturing Brecon from the Conservatives. They have also substantially increased their county council seats, again largely at the expense of the Tories. Most recent opinion polls place the Alliance roughly on an equal level with the Conservatives at about 30 per cent of the poll, compared with around 20 per cent a year ago, with Labour a few points ahead.

For the Social Democrats whose conference opens in Torquay today it is perhaps less than comfortable that they have principally been seen as an alternative by Tory protest voters. After all, the SDP came into existence as a result of a Labour split, and it was at least the initial hope of many Social Democrats that their party would replace Labour as the principal party of the left. Still, wherever the votes have come from they are votes, and success in politics can feed upon itself. If the opinion polls and by-elections were everything, Mrs Shirley Williams, the SDP President, would be fully justified in her conference report claim that British politics are now a firmly established three-party system.

The future of the Alliance parties, however, will not be settled by by-election votes or opinion poll answers, which reflect a mood but are given in full understanding that they will change nothing. The future of the two allied parties will be determined by the opinion of a highly sophisticated electorate about the likely consequences of a vote for them, whether they win, lose or hold the balance.

Electorates who vote Conservative will know that if the Conservatives have majority, Mrs Thatcher will be Prime Minister. Those who vote Labour will know that they are voting for Mr Kinnock. In either case, that knowledge will tell them something about the kind of government (and its strength) they are likely to get if one or other of these two politicians heads it. That will not be the case with the Alliance. An Alliance voter will not know whether, in the event of an Alliance majority, there will be a government headed by Dr David Owen or one led by Mr David Steel.

The two offer themselves in tandem; they intend, it seems, to appear side-by-side on platforms together as often as possible. The one who would be chosen, to go forward as Prime Minister in the event of an Alliance majority (which, after all, is what they will be asking for) will be whoever leads the party with the larger number of seats in the House of

Commons. It is a utilitarian solution with some advantages. It prevents internecine war from breaking out between the two partners, which would almost certainly happen if either Mr Steel or Dr Owen were named as the candidate Prime Minister. On a more workaday level, it also probably gives the two of them more television time than if either were acknowledged as Alliance leader. From the point of view of voters, however, the chosen solution is likely to be much less attractive when the general election comes. Indeed, it will probably be the principal handicap of the Alliance and may wreck its chances.

The Alliance partners have very different collective personalities. The Liberals have a long history and a respected name, but for sixty years have been relegated to the fringe of politics, where an urge for solemn policy-making on every issue under the sun has commingled with an attachment to modish causes and eccentric minority-group postures. They have luxuriant grass-roots, a belief in their own moderation—but also a strong dash of anarchy. Their leader is a pragmatic politician of social democratic inclination more concerned with footwork than philosophy. He would be comfortable in either of the allied parties and was much at home in the Lib-Lab alliance when Liberal votes sustained Mr Callaghan in power. On the whole, the Liberal Party is more instinctively left-wing than the social democrats (it has a strong streak of unilateralism in defence policy) and in the event of a hung parliament, Mr Kinnock would find it much easier, if he had the opportunity, to deal with the Liberals than to make a pact with the Social Democrats who are still reviled as traitors in the Labour Party's left.

On the face of things, there is not much difference over policies between the two parties: defence, most specifically with regard to Cruise missiles, is the principal area where there is potential conflict between them. But in their collective personalities, there is a sharp contrast between the Liberals and the (for the most part) harder-nosed SDP politicians who were taught in the school of Labour machine politics, and were eating the real meat of power (to borrow a phrase of yesterday from Lord Grimond) while the Liberals consoled themselves with the triumphs of pavement politics.

Most Liberals would like amalgamation with the SDP, knowing that as the party with the deeper roots and wider organization, they would largely absorb their Social Democratic partners. Some Social Democrats, those of Mr Roy Jenkins's way of thinking, also want to

establish now that the alliance with the Liberals is permanent—which is tantamount to saying that they must eventually become one party. In an article published on the brink of his party's conference, Mr Jenkins has gone so far as to say that under no electoral system would there be room in the hearts of the British people for more than three mainstream political groups. That is probably true, but it is not what the Alliance, under present arrangements, seems capable of offering.

For understandable reasons, the Social Democrats of Dr Owen's persuasion have resisted the merger recommended by their former leader Mr Jenkins. They are determined to keep their special identity; they do not wish to be absorbed into what some of them call "brown-bread-and-sandals" Liberalism. They still see themselves as replacing a leftwards-moving Labour Party. Dr Owen is therefore determined to retain SDP separateness, and is willing to wait and see what turns up in this election, believing that if PR were established thereafter, the SDP might eventually be able to live of its own.

Personality politics are involved in all this. Resentment lingers in part of the SDP over the manner in which Mr Jenkins was edged out of the leadership to make way for Dr Owen. Some of this may surface in the conference on Tuesday. Already Mr Jenkins, writing in the New Democrat, has given warning that the SDP must not become too right-wing. "The country will not want a sub-Thatcherite alternative" after Mrs Thatcher, he asserts. It is a clear hint at Dr Owen's politics of Thatcherism with a human face. Next Tuesday the same theme is implied in a Jenkinsite conference motion calling for a more "radical" and "caring" approach, and for adoption of traditional Labour values to win Labour votes—which is, of course, turning Dr Owen's own intentions against himself, while those who support Dr Owen label the Jenkinsites as Whiggish-Liberals.

The facts of life in the Alliance make a single leader impossible. In both parties there is criticism that the approach to essential policy is too imprecise. There persists a certain confusion in places over the division of parliamentary seats between the allies. The lack of a coherent leadership structure means that the nation is being offered something quite outside its constitutional experience. That is a great and dangerous handicap. Because the Alliance house is divided, the nation will be offered, in leadership terms, a pig in a poke. The buyers may be many fewer than the opinion polls suggest.

FROM RUSSIA WITH CHARM

As his November summit with President Reagan approaches, Mr Gorbachev appears determined to win the hearts and minds of the western public. His affability and willingness to grant an interview to US journalists have naturally won a warm response. The first Soviet leader to recognize "propaganda" as a negative term, he emphasized repeatedly in his interview with *Time* magazine that he was endeavouring to be "very sincere and very frank".

The editors had requested an interview in March; on Saturday, August 24 a telephone call summoned them to Moscow by the following Monday to receive Mr Gorbachev's written answers to their questions and to talk for a further two hours and twelve minutes. This was not quite an interview, as understood in the West as the *Time* chief editor, Mr Henry Grunwald, made clear: "one had to suppress the instinct to argue with him." Certain controversial aspects of East-West relations, from Afghanistan to Sakharov, seemed not to arise, although Mr Gorbachev did say, "very frankly", that "war will not come from the Soviet Union", and that the leadership consulted the population to ensure that its policies met with general approval.

The West boasts of its free press, and indeed *Time* has devoted nineteen pages to its remarkable scoop, giving the Soviet leader a very fair chance to present his ideas to the American public. But the Soviet press too demonstrated its freedom by allowing him the whole of pages one and two to present these same ideas to the Soviet public. True, there were inevitably differences in the texts, since both had to reduce the conversation somewhat.

The Soviet text dropped Mr Gorbachev's jokes, although these went down very well in America; it omitted his reference to "God on high" and for some reason cut his phrase: "The press can do anything." In compensation, however, the Soviet text expanded a brief anonymous question in *Time* magazine which asked Mr Gorbachev if he thought that the US announcement of the anti-satellite missile test and the spy-dust charges were seriously damaging preparations for the summit. The Soviet newspapers identified the *Time* managing editor Mr Ray Cave as asking about the "highly strange story of some chemical substance, which was supposedly sprinkled on Americans in Moscow".

It almost seems churlish to point out that Soviet citizens might be more interested to

read in *Pravda* an equally explicit interview with President Reagan. Yet it is significant that even this latest issue of *Time* largely devoted to their leader cannot be openly sold in the USSR. In one article it states that the average Soviet wage is around \$300 a month, while a short item in the domestic news section reveals that unemployment and poverty in the USA (about which much is written in the USSR) are dropping, and that poverty is officially defined as an annual cash income for a family of four of less than \$10,609.

Achieving the right atmosphere for the summit is important, but that should not entail pretending that differences do not exist. *Izvestiya* has attacked *The Times* for indulging in "unworthy propaganda" because we covered the preparations for the present Brave Defender manoeuvres. Perhaps such Nato exercises are not conducive to a successful summit; but to argue in this way is to ignore the existence of Soviet special forces and their role in Soviet strategy. Despite Mr Gorbachev's jokes in *Time* magazine, these forces are in daily use in Afghanistan, they have been spotted in Swedish coastal waters, and they are training for operations in Britain. This is the reality, and it should not be ignored.

Loss of parish records

From Mr J. Denis Brown
Sir, Having been chairman of the revision committee which dealt with the Parochial Registers and Records Measure 1978 while it was passing through General Synod, I was extremely perturbed to see the report in your issue of August 31 of the theft of an iron chest containing registers from Winsor Parish Church.

These registers, which must predate the establishment of the Records Office, form an extremely important part of the social history of the country and are, in my view, held by the Church as stewards.

When cases such as this occur there is a failure in that duty.

It seems from the report that these registers were stored in a heavy iron chest; the Measure provides specifically that register books which are kept in parochial custody must be in a "a rust-proof, vented steel cupboard". In addition the cupboard is required to contain a maximum/minimum thermometer and a hygrometer.

I find it difficult to believe that those conditions applied to the box containing the lost registers. It is only when records are kept under those conditions that the diocese may allow records of this nature to remain in parochial custody.

Regular diocesan inspection is also prescribed, to ensure that the duty of stewardship is being properly carried out. Here in this diocese of Carlisle questions on this issue are regularly included in the Archdeacon's Visitation.

I think that is a practice which could be followed elsewhere, and indeed ought to be because of the great importance of the provisions of the Measure being followed.

Yours faithfully,
J. DENIS BROWN,
Wesleyan,
Great Strickland,
Penrith,
Cumbria.
September 2.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Looking for jobs in right quarter

From Mr C. J. O. Garrard

Sir, Mr Lilley (feature, August 30) does well to question some current recipes for dealing with our economic difficulties. Unhappily, he advances as alternatives a set of dogmas and received ideas which are as open to destructive criticism as are those which he himself criticizes. In doing so he commits himself to a collection of absurdities.

As examples that if I, a private individual, borrow money to set up a business or build a house, it is admirable; but if the Treasury does exactly the same, disaster must result. Or, given that our roads, sewers, housing, are in urgent need of repair, renewal and extension, and that we have available an excess of manpower, ample materials, and (as Mr Lilley says) money coming out of our ears, some power other than our own stupidity prevents us from getting on with the work.

Or that while a job created by a private individual is "real" and permanent, exactly the same job, created by Government action, is in some way inferior (unreal?) and evanescent. Or that while the making and selling of, for instance, consumer goods by enterprise produces employment, public enterprise building of roads, sewers or houses does not.

Or that if excessive borrowing by Government is bad, more or less complete abstention from such

borrowing must be good. Or that it is reasonable and indeed necessary to use income from selling North Sea oil to maintain a sizeable fraction of our employable population in idleness, rather than to use it to support capital development.

The truth of the matter, I suspect, is that none of the doctrines of which Mr Lilley approves or disapproves has much relevance to a search for a solution to our economic problems. They are all based upon the illusion that stability, growth, and the wise use of resources can be assured by relying entirely upon the automatic action of our financial and fiscal mechanisms, or at the worst by tinkering with the bookkeeping which is their basis.

In fact we need to devise methods of dealing more directly with real resources and for planning and monitoring action in the real world of goods and services, while adapting our financial system to the support and control of the work that needs to be done.

This, I can see, is a tall order, but the economic plight of the world also is a tall order. If we are ever to make progress, the first step will be for bodies such as the Treasury to begin looking in the right direction. Yours faithfully,

C. J. O. GARRARD,
2 Brook Court, The Park,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
September 1.

Cabinet changes

From Mr Hugh Dykes, MP for Harrow East (Conservative)

Sir, There is much to commend and to agree with in Ronald Butt's article in today's issue (September 5), but it is incomplete and misleading to assert that the present jobless statistics overstate the real situation. Quite the reverse, and it is not the first time that journalists have caused resentment among the less fortunate in so suggesting.

In fact the published figures seriously under-estimate the real figures by a wide margin. These have been estimated, even in circles sympathetic to the Government, globally to be well over four million.

The Government remains very vulnerable on this score, and it is in this sphere of economic management policy direction that the most significant ministerial change should have been effected by the Prime Minister this week. Many Tories will also feel it is a pity, and more, that this vital opportunity was not taken.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH DYKES,
House of Commons.

From Mr M. I. D. Sutherland

Sir, Your leader of September 3 commends the Cabinet reshuffle on the grounds that it will improve government now. The leader goes on to say that Lord Young's and Kenneth Clarke's appointments are

appropriate—they are both good communicators; that Mr Brittan's tenure at the Home Office has been less successful than his talents suggested because he is not popular; that Mr Tebbit has great gifts of outward communication which the Government badly needs; that Mr Hurd's transfer to the Home Office is less obviously justified—he has not been widely known as a communicator; that Mr Kenneth Baker is an agile communicator whereas Mr Jenkin is a non-communicator, and that Sir Keith Joseph might have been replaced—he has increasingly shown himself unable to communicate with the public in terms they can understand.

If good government depends so closely on the attributes of personal communication, let us have Terry Wogan or Saatchi and Saatchi at the helm—certainly not your leader's writer of September 3. Yours sincerely,
MALCOLM SUTHERLAND,
20 Savoy Drive,
Maidstone, Kent.

From Mr Raymond Moss

Sir, It is any wonder that Britain's economy and industry do not flourish when the transfer of a Home Secretary to the Department of Trade and Industry is automatically alleged by Press and television to be a demotion? Yours sincerely,
RAYMOND MOSS,
Teesside Polytechnic,
Middlesbrough, Cleveland.

Freedom to drink

From the Director of Alcohol Concern

Sir, Your editorial of September 2 was right to urge caution in discussing a relaxation of licensing laws in England and Wales, but it could have stressed the dangers more forcefully. There is ample evidence that in countries where alcohol is more freely available than here, for example, France, Italy or Spain, the level of harm connected with drinking is far greater.

Strong evidence comes from much closer to home in Scotland, where, as you stated, licensing laws were relaxed in 1976. Since then, alcohol consumption in Scotland has gone up by three times as much as it has in England and Wales. The prospect of such increased sales is doubtless very attractive to those business interests which have been pushing so hard for the introduction of flexible licensing south of the border.

However, enthusiasm for the anticipated economic benefits must not be allowed to obscure the likely

health and social costs of greater alcohol consumption. Deaths from alcohol-related causes in Scotland are currently running at double the rate in England and Wales. In the seven years following licensing relaxation in Scotland, deaths from cirrhosis of the liver went up by 45 per cent, compared with a rise of 17 per cent in England and Wales.

We cannot assume this would happen in England and Wales, but the facts are disturbing enough for us to demand far greater reassurance from the pro-change lobby. Most important, licensing laws must be publicly recognized as a form of protection.

It is time that Government made explicit the need to control availability of alcohol for health reasons. Until that happens there is a risk that short-term economic considerations may predominate in a area of public policy which directly affects our health and welfare.

Yours faithfully,
DIANNE HAYTER, Director,
Alcohol Concern,
305 Gray's Inn Road, WC1,
September 4.

Links with USSR

From Mr George B. Rigal

Sir, I read Lord Jenkins's letter (September 3) as I was about to put on Soviet prisoner's clothes and stand outside the Dominion Theatre, where the Moscow State Circus is at present performing.

Such visits give an opportunity to just a few Soviet citizens to catch a glimpse of the free world on the other side of their hermetically sealed borders and see for themselves that the picture presented to them through the distorting lenses of the Soviet Press is only partially true.

We draw their attention to the plight of their fellow citizens, both Christians and Jews, who are

persecuted because they try to practise their religion, a fact of which, in most cases, the artists are entirely unaware. The KGB officers who accompany them do not make it easy for us.

As a result of the polite demonstrations which greet nearly every such "cultural event", I think we have succeeded in educating audiences to understand better the import of what is being purveyed from the stage. It is no way reduces their appreciation and increases the sympathy for gifted artists who are not permitted to leave the Soviet Union unless they leave behind a "tail" for the KGB to twist.

Yours faithfully,
G. B. RIGAL,
14a Pembroke Place, W2.

Future of Unesco

From Mr R. C. H. Briggs

Sir, Between the glaring prejudice of your leader's writer on Unesco of August 15 and the exaggerated anxieties of Professor Skilbeck and Mr Harper in their letter of August 20 there is a middle course and, to their credit, HM Government are pursuing it.

In his address to the "Keep Britain in Unesco Committee" of July 8 last, Mr Timothy Raison, the minister concerned, made it clear that the original objectives of Unesco remained as valid now as they were when the organization was formed in London nearly 40 years ago.

"It is our vital concern," declared Mr Raison, "that Unesco's programme should be practical and down-to-earth, while committed to the values of a free and open society... We have no wish to leave Unesco; but it is the duty of HM Government to ensure that mem-

bership of international organizations is in the interests of the United Kingdom and provides value for money... Over the years, our concern about Unesco have been building up."

Pressure by this country's representatives from within having produced too little reform, the Foreign Secretary last November announced the notice of withdrawal, but at the same time gave an assurance that the question of withdrawal would be reconsidered at the end of 1985 if substantial progress towards reform had by then been made.

An opportunity to measure that progress will occur at the 23rd session of the General Conference of Unesco in Sofia next October. The draft programme and budget for 1986-7 (23 C/5) prepared by the Director-General and the Secretariat will be considered then, as will also the amendments to these recommended by the Executive Board of Unesco (23 C/6).

Coining it in the collecting tin

From Mrs A. B. Langdon

Sir, Our annual flag-day collection for the NSPCC has always included four or five notes stuffed with difficulty into the collecting tins. This year we received seventy-one pound coins. The much maligned coin has something to recommend it after all!

Yours sincerely,
ANNE LANGDON,
Beedle Cottage,
Mount Pleasant,
Lymington,
Hampshire,
September 3.

Raising the Titanic

From Mr Richard Roberts

Sir, Now that the wreck of the Titanic has reportedly been located and identified, it is with some dismay that I read of a planned "salvage" operation to raise her once more to the surface (report, September 4).

Surely the fact that the wreck undoubtedly contains enormous material wealth is far less significant than that the Titanic is also the last resting place of over 1,500 passengers and crew who went down with her.

Ships that have been sunk with loss of life in time of conflict are often classified as official war graves. Could not the Titanic and other civilian ships like her be similarly categorized and protected from such appalling interference?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD ROBERTS,
22 Inglewood Road,
West Hampstead, NW6,
September 4.

From Mr R. J. Hawkins

Sir, Those who were alarmed by our headline in Wednesday's *Times*, "Expert says the Titanic could be raised", should take consolation from recalling that experts said it could not be sunk.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. HAWKINS,
Gordano,
Langham Road,
Robertsbridge,
East Sussex,
September 5.

Off duty in Ethiopia

From Mrs Neil Kinnock

Sir, Thomson Prentice performed a service by publicizing (Spectrum, September 4) the fund-raising undertaken by men of the RAF detachments who have served in Ethiopia.

They and their colleagues from the small Army detachment in Addis Ababa also deserve to be recognized for another entirely voluntary and valuable activity. Many of the servicemen give a large part of their off-duty time to repairing and renovating buildings and equipment in the Mother Teresa Hospital and at an orphanage for famine victims. In addition, the RAF doctor has made it a custom to work regularly at the hospital.

I have seen no published reports of these selfless and immensely useful efforts. During my recent visit to Ethiopia the people working at both the hospital and the orphanage warmly expressed to me their feelings of gratitude for the help given by the firm and soldiers. I thought that your readers would be interested to hear of this very beneficial by-product developed by the personnel of Operation Bushel.

Yours sincerely,
GLENYS KINNOCK,
Ealing, W5,
September 5.

Whistle stop

From Mr Gareth Morris

Sir, Dr Travers Grant (August 26) laments the dearth of *sifflers* and not without cause. The best whistler I ever heard was Mr George Malcolm, the eminent musician; why, he could produce an octave higher than my top note—and fortissimo. Even in his heyday, though, he couldn't approach my whistled staccato in Baginatti's *Perpetuum Mobile*, on the other hand, my African Grey parrot's imitations brought it home to me that my style was often too sentimental.

Mr Malcolm had a nasty fall and then I was mugged in New York so two virtuosos were lost to the world, but perhaps Dr Grant will derive some comfort from the knowledge that Sir Winston Churchill couldn't abide those who indulged in the habit.

Yours faithfully,
GARETH MORRIS,
Alwyne Place,
Canonbury, N1,
September 2.

Mr Raison has recognized that the board's modifications have produced a more positive atmosphere and demonstrated progress towards reform. But until the General Conference has endorsed the amended programme and budget it is impossible, to quote Mr Raison again, "to be confident that promised reforms will stick, that the will is really there."

To withdraw now, as your leader suggests, would be absurd as well as being an offensive breach of faith and a gross discouragement to those friends of this country who have also worked hard for the necessary reform of Unesco. You might usefully make amends by publishing Mr Raison's address of July 8 last, which clarifies the issues and the time-scale admirably.

Yours faithfully,
R. C. H. BRIGGS,
25 Lawn Crescent,
Kew,
Surrey,
August 21.

ON THIS DAY

SEPTEMBER 7 1898

The (then) camaraderie of Fleet Street prompted the Daily Telegraph to let The Times use this dispatch by their correspondent Bennett Burleigh, Frank (brother of Cecil) Rhodes and Hubert Howard were The Times correspondents at Omdurman. The former was wounded; the latter after the battle was standing with Kitchener close to the Madhi's tomb when a British shell accidentally burst near to them, but killing our correspondent—a "hard looking veteran type". The description is a friend's—Winston Churchill's, who was attached to the 21st Lancers and took part in the charge. His offer to write an account of the battle for The Times was accepted but Kitchener vetoed the proposal—serving officers were not permitted to act so. Whereupon Churchill sent accounts as "private letters" to the Morning Post which published them as dispatches.

[BATTLE OF OMDURMAN]

(FROM THE SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.)

OMDURMAN, SEPT. 3. Before dawn on the morning of September 2 the army was under arms and ready to march out, with all our baggage train, to attack the Khalifa's force, whom we expected to find in its chosen position before Omdurman. The night had been cloudy, and we knew that the Derwishes had lost their one opportunity of creeping near and inflicting any serious losses upon our ranks by a rush or by means of rifle fire.

At daybreak the 21st Lancers upon the left, and the Egyptian mounted troops, as before, away on the right, proceeded forward for the purpose of scouting. I rode ahead with the Lancers to and beyond Jebel Surgham, which is the last little rocky range between Kertiri and Omdurman. We saw the whole of the enemy moving towards us. Inasmuch as their front extended over three miles and was interspersed with innumerable banners and the glittering sheen of steel, they presented one of the grandest spectacles it is possible to imagine as they advanced over the undulating plain. Scattered along their front were the mounted Bedouin and bodies of Baggara cavalry. The Khalifa's big black banner was in the centre of the five divisions into which the enemy's lines appeared to be ranged. Their force was well marshalled and magnificently led. Indeed, it might well have been a trained European army. Upon their left were a gun, and blue and white banners carried by the troops under the Sheikh el Din, the Khalifa's son. Upon their right, which ultimately bore down upon the British soldiers, was the Khalifa's brother, Yaseuf.

Before the rising ground permitted my seeing them there was a roar from the mass as though from a distant and surf-beaten shore. On getting to closer quarters we heard the Derwishes shouting continually and madly the words "Allah, rasul Allah el Madhi!" The Khalifa and the mullahs (priests) had stirred up their religious frenzy, and Abdullah had told the teachers at the Mosque and the Madhi's tomb that he was going to beat the English and the infidels, and would return to Omdurman for noontime prayers. From the enormous numbers with the Khalifa it appears probable that, besides his regular trained forces, he had had many of Omdurman's male population. Certainly there were 80,000 men in the enemy's lines.

At 6.45 in the morning the Derwishes were seen upon Surgham Hill, and then the whole body of them swarmed over the hill like ants. They shouted upon seeing us beneath them, although at a distance of 1,800 yards. Their 150 mounted leaders called upon them to rush the batteries, which piled them with an awful and continuous discharge, the Maxim rattling like a furious hailstorm. The 1st Grenadier Guards treated the Derwishes to long-range volleys, and then all the British infantry opened fire as the enemy wildly ran in. But the shell fire had already told its deadly tale, and the whole of the enemy within range began moving to the west, across our front, leaving, however, their riflemen, who, from a fairly good shelter, opened a sharp fusillade. The bullets came whistling about our ears, bringing with them wounds and death.

Among the first to fall was Captain Calderwood of the Warwickshire Regiment, whilst Colonel Frank Rhodes of The Times, was borne off the field shot through the shoulder.

Our left, otherwise Lytton's Brigade, was thrown considerably forward. The nature of the ground created difficulties in handling the transport, which somewhat retarded the advance of the brigades following. Sharp in take advantage, the Derwishes seized this moment to throw their entire strength against our right once more. All our guns and Maxims that could be brought to bear, assisted by the gunboats, played upon the Derwishes, who, in some cases, were four and eight deep. The range was long, over 2,000 yards, but volleys were directed against them, and it was plain that the Derwishes hated our infantry's fusillade. The Khalifa's black flag, which had in the first advance been planted within 1,200 yards of our front, still waved aloft. A pile of stones had been heaped around its tall bamboo staff, but with the exception of a few of the enemy who were shamming death all had been killed or wounded.

Glories recalled

From Mr F. A. Ventris Jenkins

Sir, Could the naming of a property be more implicitly, and sadly, evocative than Lost Horizon, as observed by my wife on a south coast house whose owners had surrendered their sea view to the occupants of a newly erected block of flats?

Yours etc,
F. A. VENTRIS JENKINS,
Kelen Croft, Mill Lane,
Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent.
September 2.

7 - 13 September, 1985

SATURDAY

A weekly guide
to leisure, entertainment
and the artsPast masters
of pick
and shovelNigel Andrew joins in the excitement as
a band of amateur archaeologists uncover
life and death in a Roman villa and
stumble across a murder mystery

A couple of brawny chaps are wielding pick-axes and shovels, and one or two are hoeing or lugging buckets of earth, but mostly the ground is covered with kneeling figures, each busy with a little flat trowel. The sounds of their voices - joking, chatting, conferring - mingle with the "tsk, tsk" of the trowels, the thud of the pick, the swish of the hand-brushes.

The site of Piddington Roman Villa gives a good impression of the middle of nowhere. In fact it is only a few miles outside Northampton, and a short walk from the village it is named after. When I visited the place it was buzzing with activity. The August training dig was in progress.

They are digging at Piddington because some 18th centuries ago, someone built a villa there. After it had grown and prospered for 200 years and more, then fallen into decay, suffered various indignities, and been heavily plundered for building stone, what was left gradually disappeared beneath the ground. There it lay unmolested until 1781, when looters destroyed a large mosaic pavement. Then the remains were forgotten again until, in the late 1970s, ploughing drew attention to them.

Fortunately, the Upper Nene Archaeological Society is very active, and its two leading lights, Roy and Liz Friendship-Taylor, happen to live just down the road. So the site was saved from treasure-seekers, and in 1979 serious excavation began at what is now the Piddington Villa site.

Archaeological excavation - "digging" - is an activity with a long and honourable history. Excluding the activities of the metal-detector brigade, it is academically respectable, well organized and scientifically rigorous. Some archaeological societies have been losing members in recent years, and treasure-seeking has been gaining in popularity. But "real" archaeology still has a huge amateur following - both from the armchair, and in terms of practical work.

More than 10,000 volunteers take part in digs every year, and they are of all ages and from every walk of life. Some 40 of them are at work for a fortnight every August at Piddington under the Friendship-Taylor's benign supervision - the new ones learning as they go, the old

hands renewing their acquaintance with the site, and everybody enjoying themselves immensely.

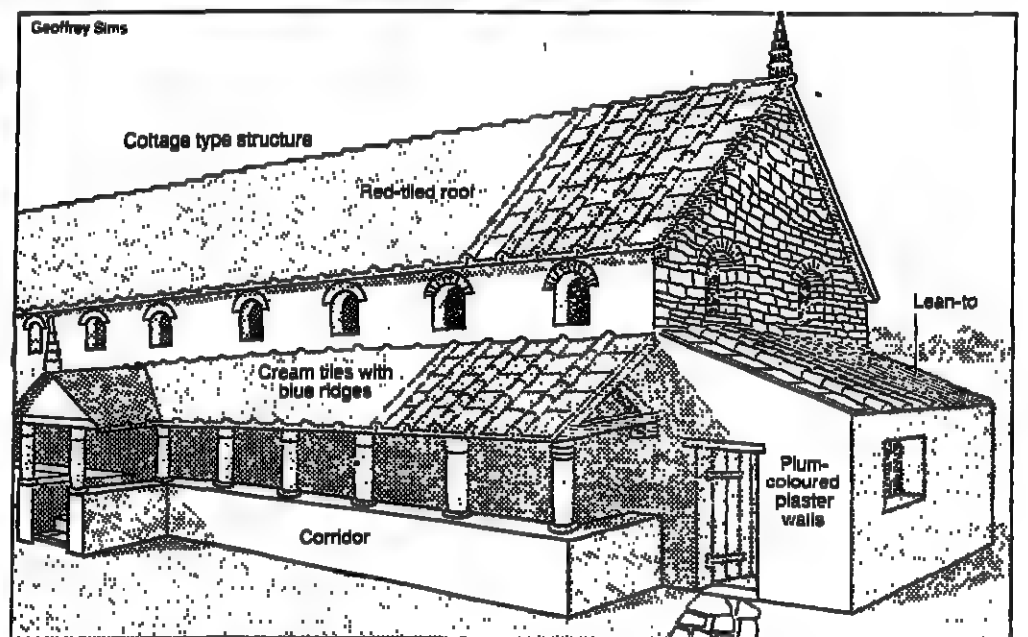
This is a classic, painstaking dig, not a quick in-and-out in the teeth of the bulldozers. The villa site is on farm land but the owner, Mr Chambers, has been extremely co-operative. The Piddington diggers, as one of them put it, have been able to "build an innings" over the six years of excavation. They are probably nearing the end of the first phase - and if that sounds like some amateur, remember that these are amateurs, and for the rest of the year Piddington is only dug on Sundays.

Nothing headline-making has yet been discovered, but the patient investigation is gradually revealing what every archaeologist is ultimately after - the exact shape, the colour and texture of the past. Not that you would know it, seeing the site for the first time with untrained eyes.

Behind the spoil-heaps - quite big after six years - lies a sunken area of flat earth from which rough outlines of stone protrude. Some of these were obviously walls, and there are other areas that still bear some resemblance to floors and pavements - the floors done in unpatterned mosaic, the pavements in herringbone tiling.

The archaeological picture only began to emerge after a guided tour by Liz F-T. Then it became possible to visualize the great villa as a conspicuous, even outlandish feature of the landscape - with its cream and blue roof tiles and its red and green paintwork. Some of its plaster was even painted with cinnabar, an extremely expensive pigment, this and a fragment of porphyry suggest a phase of considerable prosperity. But the villa came to a bad end, and "squatters" moved in, building themselves a home of sorts around an immense hearth, on which they cheerfully cooked dogs and cats.

It was probably a little after this time that the murder happened. No, let's not be sensational. The facts are that the diggers found the body of a woman in her mid-twenties in one of the walls. She was in good health, with excellent teeth, but a slight suggestion of spina bifida (quite common in



those times), and her back was damaged in such a way as to suggest she might just possibly have been dumped in the ruins.

Here was not the only body on the site: so far three babies' skeletons have been dug up. In those days of high infant mortality it was usual to bury very young children about the house.

I had the curious experience of seeing one of these babies, which lay under newspaper in a cardboard box in the "finds tent". Happily only a few of the bone fragments were at all recognizable. I was also shown some of the more interesting, if less gruesome finds - a pre-Roman brooch (from an earlier occupation of the site), some very well preserved pins, a piece of rather pretty "motto beaker" with the letters TER painted on it. All around were trays of potsherds, bits of bone, pieces of tile, nails, snail-shells; everything has to be examined and fitted into the reconstructed past. The choicest items are separated out as "small finds" - an odd term as they now included a heavy slice of stone column.

The diggers of Piddington come from far and wide. On the day I visited, two Americans and a Greek girl were in evidence. I found the American girl - who is studying finance in San Francisco - a little disconsolate at not having dug up anything good; but before I left

she had found a beautifully preserved Roman nail - great rejoicings!

The Greek girl had been luckier, having dug up a brooch and helped to unearth the latest baby skeleton - a delicate task. The American boy - who is studying electronics - was, like the other two, on his first dig, and had, like them, come in response to an ad in an archaeology magazine. This is how most of the volunteers are recruited.

The English contingent included Adrian, a history teacher - digging for his third year on the same bit of the site - and an Army man and a civil servant both in their fourth year here. Michelle, a nurse, was actually into her fifth season on the site, still working on the squatters' unsavoury remains. About three-quarters of each year's diggers come back next time, and often they grow attached not just to the site but to one particular corner of it.

Naturally, towards the lower end of the age-range are a number of students and prospective students - even a couple of schoolboys, one of whom found the fragment of rhyolite. But by no means all of them are formally studying archaeology (a subject not widely available in schools). Pauline, wearer of a notably natty pair of shorts, is actually

doing a course in freelance journalism!

The great thing about a dig like this is that, essentially, every one is here for the love of it. The atmosphere is very much "one big happy family": there are even two or three small children playing around the tents, and one girl student is digging with her mother.

Archaeology has much to offer to the imagination and the brain, but digging is also good, healthy outdoor work - which is part of the attraction. Certainly a good healthy outdoor lunch was provided at Piddington - including some excellent tabouleh - and after that a spot of education: this is after all a training dig. Peter - a tax inspector - demonstrated a device for measuring tiny differences in the conductivity of the soil.

As well as these demonstrations, the society also lays on evening lectures. No one could come away without having learnt something. But for all the educational content, and the hard work, a dig like this is also very much a holiday. The diggers are accommodated locally as informal bed-and-breakfasters, or camp on a site by the church. As for the evenings - well, if I really wanted to get the flavour of the dig, Pauline suggested, I should join them at the *White Hart*. There is obviously more to archaeology than meets the eye.

DIGGING IN

The best way to start in archaeology is to concentrate on a particular district (most likely your home area) and build up a detailed knowledge. This will be a long, slow process, but it is worth it as you will learn a great deal as you go along, and your horizons will widen continually. Your best allies are your local libraries, museums and archaeological societies.

Public libraries offer access to collections of local history material, and can obtain virtually any book or pamphlet you might need. Local museums have a particular interest in archaeology, and county ones often have important collections.

Archaeological societies are the basic unit of British archaeology, providing the impetus and the facilities for much of the research carried on outside the universities. By joining a local or county society, you can find out about archaeology in your own area.

You will largely be learning as you go. More systematic learning can be done not only on "training digs" (as at Piddington) but also through classes run by the Workers' Educational Association, university extra-mural departments and local authorities - the Inner London Education Authority (01-633 3430) has a good range of classes.

Helping on a dig does take a good deal of commitment, but anyone interested in volunteering should obtain the Council for British Archaeology Newsletter, which advertises regularly for helpers. Contact the council at 112 Kennington Road, London SE11 6RE. Tel: 01-582 0494.

● Metal detectors are a thorny issue among archaeologists, because they can lead to indiscriminate digging and the destruction of potentially valuable evidence. It is an offence to use a metal detector within a designated Area of Archaeological Importance without written permission from the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission, 23 Saville Row, London W1 (or, in Wales and Scotland, the Secretary of State). Even if the site is not designated, the landowner's permission should always be sought.

New life in old stones: (top) the site and ground plan of Piddington Roman Villa, and the Friendship-Taylor's (left) volunteers at the dig; (above) reconstruction from archaeologists' deductions

SATURDAY
Out and About
with a visit to
Stratford, p17

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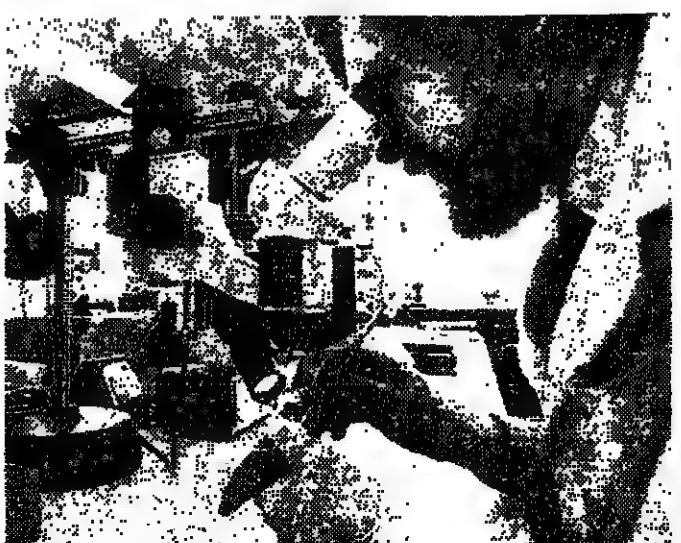
Nerve centre of reclaimed knowledge

Archaeology today increasingly involves the application of advanced science and technology. Nowhere is this better exemplified than at the Ancient Monuments Laboratory, which is now part of English Heritage (the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission). Sited amid the tailors' shops of Savile Row, the laboratory is the focal point of archaeological science in Britain.

Work here covers surveying (to locate sites), analysis of finds (to extract the maximum of information), and conservation of archaeological remains. Survey work involves such techniques as monitoring electrical resistance in the soil - as demonstrated at the Piddington dig - and local variations in the magnetic field.

The patterns plotted from these findings give good indications of human disturbance, often showing the outlines of buried buildings or earthworks. Recent surveys at Maiden Castle in Dorset, for example, have given very good results and sites have often been detected on land earmarked for commercial development or road building.

The scientific analysis of finds can involve examining such lowly remains as snail-shells, pollen grains, seeds, beetles and weevils. All can provide essential clues to the bygone environment. Bones, often found by the hundred-weight, can provide a wealth of information about animals and



Pieces of the past: an expert assesses finds from Hadrian's Wall

humans and their interaction. Sometimes a particular identification can be exciting, as with the laboratory's discovery of the first peacock from Roman Britain, and a medieval great bustard, now extinct here.

Human remains are particularly interesting, and the laboratory is preparing itself to receive the spectacularly well preserved Lindow Bog Man (jocularly known as Pete Marsh) whom they are to freeze-dry in collaboration with the British Museum. Normally it is just a matter of bones and teeth, but even these can speak volumes about a population's health, age

range, diet and way of life. The scientists here are often in the position of forensic investigators, piecing together a picture of the past from the smallest and most inaccessible clues. A whole range of modern technologies can assist them - electron microscopy, radiography and spectrometry. As the clues are teased out, often from the least promising sources, they are compared with what is already known, and so our knowledge of the past gradually expands.

The conservation of finds is also vital, especially for future study, and this is a large part of the laboratory's work. Buried wood is particularly tricky, as it survives only when burnt to charcoal or waterlogged. If waterlogged wood dries out, it shrinks and becomes split and warped; so the water content has to be very gradually replaced with something permanent or else it has to be freeze-dried. At the laboratory this technique has been employed on, for example, an early Iron Age cartwheel, which was impregnated with polyethylene glycol. The work took a year.

Dating of remains has always been a vital part of archaeological investigation. Dendrochronology, which involves recurrent patterns in tree-rings, has been much used at the laboratory, and is now assisted by computer analysis. Indeed the computer is becoming increasingly useful to the archaeologist, sorting masses of data without tedious manual operations.

The Ancient Monuments Laboratory exists to provide information and conserve objects which will help to deepen our understanding of the past. The information is passed on to the archaeologists for their published reports, and the material itself passes to the museums, usually according to the wishes of the owner of the land where it was excavated. The laboratory plays a central role in the increasingly sophisticated and scientific processes whereby the past yields up its secrets to the present.

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TRAVEL

Time to wave
goodbye to
plain sailing

A broken ankle and crutches failed to
deter John Higgins from enjoying
a cruise that takes in the
classical sights of Turkey and Greece

It was not the best way to begin a cruise. A week before the sailing date, on a wet Saturday morning I had slid down my front steps in a rush to see Chelsea play a north London club not much in favour at Stamford Bridge. The result was a fractured ankle. If I had had a yellow card handy I would have shown it to that bottom step: it was a bookable offence. The question was whether to continue with the cruise, somewhat incapacitated; after warning calls to Swan Hellenic, the operator, and Gatwick, the airport of departure, the decision was yes.

Gatwick, much improved these last couple of years, gets maximum points for assisting those on crutches: instant wheelchairs, cheerful handlers, feigned surprise at an offered tip. The scene could have come from an airport authority brochure. But in Venice it was still raining, not the gentle rain that sometimes falls on the city in June or that mixture of mist and drizzle that softens the contours of every building in winter, but an unceasing downpour that made crossing the marble floor of harbour customs hall supported on rubber-soled crutches a journey of extreme hazard.

Aboard the SS Orpheus most things apart from the sky brightened. The Swan Hellenic operation is much like that of an old established family hotel. There is a high proportion of return bookings: possibly, a quarter of the passengers had cruised the Mediterranean with this line before and one had recently completed her 21st trip. Old faces recognized the crew and the crew recognized old faces. A quarter of a century ago Swan's uncovered a very simple formula that ran against that of most cruise ships: the entertainment - or instruction - was to be ashore rather than aboard. The ship does most of its travelling by night and the days are spent on sightseeing, visiting the classical sites of the Eastern Mediterranean.

Experience has spawned a timetable that permits no deviation. If the Orpheus is scheduled to pass a small and remote Aegean island at 9.25 am then at 9.30 it will be at one end and at 9.30 at the other. On the appointed hour it will be dead on the centre point.

One veteran of many cruises joined scarcely a single on-shore excursion during the 13 days aboard but preferred to spend his time in the bar. The drinks were cheap (20p for an ouzo, double that for a Scotch), but the food for the most part was totally undistinguished, so why had he chosen Swan Hellenic?

The answer was concise: the fellow passengers were agreeable, there was total cossetting ashore while other lines dumped you at the harbour gates and left you to the mercy of the con-men, and gratuities were included in the price.

No touts, no tipping. That makes a very fair formula, to which could be added no driving. A fair number of passengers, including myself, were revisiting places they had seen 20 or more years ago when it was commonplace for undergraduates to go to Athens one year and to Istanbul the next in a car that just about managed to make the journey. But Athens now is one of the worst cities in Europe for traffic. The town sprawls for ever in every direction while the pall of haze and smoke that starts on the waterfront beyond Piraeus is enough to deter all but the most persistent classicists. Istanbul remains much more fun, the air is better and the sea is an integral part of the place.

No, it is better to travel by sea and let someone else do the driving on land. So there was Spit on the Dalmatian coast, with its cluster of cafes behind Diocletian's Palace, where the wine is brought up from underground cellars and served under the chestnut trees. The prevailing smell is still that mixture of coffee and slivovitz which covers the whole of middle and southern Yugoslavia. Past Albania and into the Ionian Sea the pungency of the pines takes over.

The Orpheus is small enough to put into the tiny harbour of Katakolo for Olympia, a few



Grecian grandeur: the ruins of the Tholos at Delphi

miles off, and the string of restaurants is close enough to the mooring for even someone on crutches to make it by foot.

There is reassurance in the presence of hotels of many years' standing. The Spas at Olympia and the Voulas at Delphi perched on the edge of the cliff with a stunning view of the bay of Itea from its balcony bar. The main curvy street of Delphi has stood up marvelously to the thunder of the coaches and on a spring day the smell of the acacia blossom will conquer that of the petrol fumes. The shops may have sprouted a few more Amex and Diners Club stickers in the window but they have not changed that much in a quarter of a century.

With the Corinth Canal comes the appropriate lecture.

The Orpheus carries its regular quartet of academics, urbane and sometimes a bit patronizing when they are orating on site or on deck, but exceedingly friendly off duty. The quintet changes each voyage, but most of them, like Swan Hellenic, have been polishing their act over the years. Verdi wrote an opera to celebrate the opening of the Suez Canal; why did Corinth not invite him when their cutting was complete? Perhaps someone remembered that Rossini had already written *Le Siège de Corinth*.

Then to the Aegean islands. I have no great love for Hydra with its over-pretty and over-priced harbour; it has always been a place for the rich Athenians and when the cruise boats arrive the charges become even steeper. Chios over by the Turkish coast is a total contrast. Little visited by tourists and with the 11th-century minaret of Nea Moni hidden in the hills. Lord Charlemont went there in 1749 and his account of it stands very well today (*The Travels of Lord Charlemont in Greece and Turkey*, Trigraph £13.50).

Thasos, beneath the northern panhandle of Greece, commands the greatest affection: a thickly wooded island with masses of sea birds, it too has changed little over the years. It is still a resort for the Greeks rather than the West Europeans and a lunch place for those from Kavala across the water. Make for George's restaurant - right turn at the landing stage and then immediately ahead.

While parts of Greece deteriorate - Volos, the harbour from which Jason set sail, is now more for juggernauts than argonauts - the Mediterranean coast of Turkey seems to be coming up, or at least offering

much more accommodation than it used to. Dikili, the port for the mighty sites of Pergamum, is a spruce town of character. Gemlik, in the Sea of Marmara, has its attractions and the road goes south to Bursa, with its Green Mosque and a bazaar which is a good deal more manageable than the one in Istanbul. But that city - call it Byzantium, Constantinople, Tsarigrad or plain Istanbul - keeps its character against all invasions. The trio still plays in the Pera Palas Hotel, the ferries zigzagging their way up the Bosphorus have more stops than E. Power Biggs's organ. Attaturk may have made Ankara the capital, but no one really believes it. Make your way to Yesilkoy, the smart suburb on the west of Istanbul, and eat at the Hisar on the shore. The menu may list wines as red, white, rose and frothy, but you will dine excellently at about £7 a head.

No, it was not the best way to start a cruise, but by the time Istanbul had arrived the skies were blue, the going was good and the ankle quite remarkably healed.

TRAVEL NOTES

The 13-day voyages run from March to December at prices ranging from £770-£1,500. Swan Hellenic Cruises, Beaufort House, St Botolph Street, London EC3A 7DX (01-247 7532).

DRINK

Weather-wise buys

SEPTEMBER WINES

It might be exaggerating to call myself a vigneronne, but the milk bottle on my kitchen window-sill boasts a Pinot Noir vine with six leaves, several buds and dozens of roots. The vine's original home was the Ay district of Champagne and although I have been carefully tending it since the spring with conversation, house plant food *et al.*, the pruning has only recently started to flourish.

Its slow progress has nothing to do with my lack of viticultural expertise. Champagne, like the other northern French wine-producing regions of Chablis and Alsace, was badly hit with frost earlier this year and will probably produce a 1985 crop that is considerably below a normal harvest.

Thousands of hectares of vines were killed in northern France and thousands more will not produce fruit this year. Bordeaux and Burgundy have also had their share of frost damage and, outside France, Germany was very badly hit as were parts of Italy, including Tuscany.

It would, however, be madness to write off the '85 vintage yet. Just as my Pinot Noir vine has been perked up by a little late summer sunshine, so have Europe's vineyards. France has had a much better summer than we have (not too difficult I agree) and provided the weather stays fine between now and the vintage, the chances of a good, though reduced, harvest are high.

The prospect of a small crop does mean one thing: prices will

rise. Smart wine drinkers are already stocking up to avoid the latest round of price increases. Adnams is a good place to start. Majestic Wine Warehouse on September 14 or 15. You could see Alan Johnson-Hill, the owner of Château Méaume, and Henry Ryman from Château La Jaubertie.

There are good buys to be had. At the inexpensive end I liked the look of both the red Cuvée des Gaulois Vin de Table (£2) and the '82 Graves (£3.50) from that talented winemaker Pierre Coste. Both have been previously recommended in this column. From the Rhône the '81 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Domaine du Vieux Télégraphe (£6) is an excellent wine, as is Guigal's '79 Côte Rotie (£8). California has big names such as Heltz and Phelps, and there are wines from Champagne, Italy and Australia.

Also on special offer until September 15 is Gratien and Meyer's Crémant de Loire from Peter Dominic. Most branches of this off-licence stock the fresh, green, full-flavoured fizz for £5.49 but, during this period, it is reduced to £5.19 for Wine Mine Club members. Crémant wines are the finest of the Loire produces and are one of the few French *methode champenoise* sparklers, outside Champagne, that are a match for the real thing. I enjoyed the rich, assertive character of this

sparkler with its soft mousse that is the hallmark of all Crémant wines.

If you have always dreamed of owning a château in Bordeaux and want to meet someone who does, then pop into the Battersea branch of Majestic Wine Warehouse on September 14 or 15. You could see Alan Johnson-Hill, the owner of Château Méaume, and Henry Ryman from Château La Jaubertie.

The '83 Méaume priced at £3.89 is another September bargain with its young, vibrant raspberry/redcurrant flavour. It will be available for tasting over the weekend and you can compare it with the '82 (£3.69), an excellent wine with a rich, cedary, cassis-like taste about which I have written before.

The Jaubertie wines from Bergerac to the east of Bordeaux are another example abroad of an Englishman's grape-growing expertise. Mr Ryman bought the property in 1973 and has vastly improved the estate and vines.

Majestic will have two '84 Jaubertie wines available for tasting and my favourite is the Cépage Sauvignon (£2.89) whose green, crisp, nuttily bouquet and taste I much prefer to his '84 Bergerac Sec (£2.79) which, although improving every year, I still find too broad and dull for my taste. The English may not be the best cooks in the world but we are obviously quite good at growing grapes.

Jane MacQuitty

OUTINGS

GLC THAMESDAY: Full day's entertainment on the Thames, including barge driving, powered boat and whaler races, sub-aqua, aerobic and parachute displays. On the South Bank numerous bands, dancing, robotics, street theatre, fair, children's shows and a fireworks display at 8.15pm. South Bank between Westminster and Waterloo bridges. Information Mary Wright (01-633 1718). Today 11am-10.30pm. Free.

11TH ENGLISH VINEYARD WINE FESTIVAL: Pleasant way to pass part of the weekend if you are interested in viticulture and its products. Children can enjoy Brusillas Zoo and playground next door while you taste the wine. Valley Wine Cellars, Drusillas Corner, Alfriston, East Sussex (0323 870532). Today and tomorrow, noon-6pm. Admission £4 to include six tasting vouchers and souvenir glass.

BATTLE OF BRITAIN "AT HOME" DAY: Well-run international air show with more than 100 aircraft in flying and static displays. Other attractions include the Red Arrows, dog handling, marching bands, funfair, refreshments. RAF Finningley, Doncaster, South

Yorks (0302 770771). Today 9am-7pm. Adult £3, child 8-16 £1, under 8 free.

WYCOMBE SHOW: The 38th, with sheep and cattle appearing after a 20-year absence. Also goats, dogs and livestock marquee with rabbits, guinea pigs and poultry; wine and honey displays and a large horticultural section. Arena events include pipe and drum bands, dog handling, parachute descents. The Rye, High Wycombe, Bucks. Information: Mrs Glover (0494 28248). Today 9.30am-6pm. Adult £1.50, child 80p.

FOUNTAINS ABBEY APPEAL CELEBRATION DAY: Visitors will not only contribute to an appeal expected to pass the £1 million mark this year but should have an enjoyable time from a flower festival in the Solarium and Fountains Hall, and nine Yorkshire bands playing in the grounds. Young Farmers' barbeque, more bands, floodlit flowers from 6.30pm. Licensed tent plus soft refreshments, lunches and teas. Fountains Abbey, Studley Royal, Ripon, North Yorks. (076588 537). Tomorrow 12.30-10.30pm. Adult £1.40, child 50p.

VICTORIAN WEEKEND: Street entertainment in period costume

includes clog and morris dancing. Punch and Judy, craft demonstrations. Victorian buffets in pubs and hotels tonight. Flower festival and Victorian family serv. In church tomorrow 10.30am, followed by procession of old carriages and fancy dress competitions. Kirkby Lonsdale, Cumbria. Information: Bruce Wood-Jack (0453 71803). Today 10am-late evening. Tomorrow 10am-5pm. Free.

NORFOLK GAMES: All-ages teams from Norfolk's seven districts competing in badminton, basketball, football, ladies and men's hockey, netball, squash, table tennis, volleyball and orienteering plus a relay race in cycling, running and canoeing. Various venues include King Edward's School, Gaywood Sports Centre and the Royal Estate at Sandringham. King's Lynn, Norfolk. Information: David Elvidge (0553 673483). Tomorrow 10am-5pm.

Judy Froshaug

Out and About goes to Stratford-upon-Avon, page 17

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For the current Karpov-Kasparov replay in Moscow, the games are appearing regularly in *The Times*.

daily in *The Times* with explanations by Harry Golombek or myself, and with daily lectures on the games at the London Docklands Museum.

London Docklands Museum on the Isle of Dogs. (Details from Stewart Reuben, 01-892 6660 or 01-538 0011).

There will also be an Tel 24 hrs (0473) 57257.

OUT AND ABOUT: STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

Shopping in the shadow of the bard

Continuing our summer series on Britain's most popular tourist centres, Beryl Downing treads in Shakespeare's footsteps and finds a bustling town with more to offer than just history

On Vancouver Island in Canada, a space age away from Shutter, stands a full-size replica of Anne Hathaway's cottage. Only one detail suggests that it was not built by a 15th-century yeoman farmer - it is centrally heated.

But the rest is exact. The owner, Mrs Lane (she was much too grand for me to ask her first name), had spent many holidays in Warwickshire, painstakingly measuring walls and counting bricks to recreate her dream. She even grew 13 acres of straw to make the thatch.

I think of her every time I drive over Clopton bridge into Stratford-upon-Avon, for the neat scale of the architecture always makes me feel that somebody has just assembled the whole place from a child's toy town set.

Stratford has everything that typifies the ancient English market town - the half-timbered houses, the Georgian brick and stone houses, the old vicarage which was the reason for the original Roman settlement.

Inevitably it also has quite a few of the less desirable aspects of the modern British tourist town - inadequate parking, awful food and too many junk souvenir shops.

As about half the annual 1.4 million visitors are day trippers it is hardly surprising that they have little time to search out the more rewarding shops.

For the more discriminating there are treats worth seeking, and the most distinguished is certainly Peter Dingley's gallery

at 8 Chapel Street (0789 205001). It is one of the 29 galleries in the country selected by the Crafts Council for the outstanding quality of the work and quite right, too, as Peter Dingley was one of the first, in 1966, to open an unsubsidized gallery and shop to promote fine British craftsmanship. His discrimination and fostering of young as well as established talent were rewarded this year with the MBE.

Apart from distinguished ceramics from world-famous names, the shop always has a selection of mixed crafts, including studio glass, textile hangings and embroidered pictures, all of high standard but not necessarily high price - you can find a small gift for £5 or so.

At the moment there are some notable hand-carved bowls by David Griffith, in handsomely grained cherry, alder and sycamore at prices from about £21. The gallery is closed on Thursday afternoons.

A craft shop with a very different atmosphere but no less integrity is Soft Surroundings at 2 Centre Craft Yard (0789 293070), tucked in a courtyard behind 43 Henley Street, opposite the Birthplace.

Here, Andrew Maxwell, a sculptor, makes no claim to a gallery but has a selection of well-chosen, and inexpensive crafts from contemporary jewellers (95p to £35) to painted silk cushions from £15.

His passion for texture can be seen throughout the shop and particularly in the collection of



Tales of the river bank: a waterside stroll in Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon

hand knitwear by Jenny Lilly of Edgbaston, whose work is already popular in America. She uses yarns like a painter and intermingles shaggy mohairs and crunchy cottons with threads of glitter or blocks of woven ribbon. The sweater shown is in lavender-grey mohair, with white and turquoise ribbon, and costs £125.

For local views of Stratford the place to go is Foster Frame, 10-11 Sheep Street (0789 69024), not only for the extensive range of prints but also to enjoy the 16th-century building, which is one of the oldest in town.

Jerry Foster, whose speciality is framing and restoring pictures of all kinds ("although I wouldn't claim to tackle a Corot") has 18th and 19th-century prints for every possible occasion, conveniently catalogued in drawers labelled "Doctors and Denizens", "Fishing", "Golf", "Marine". He can produce an appropriate image from £5 to £2,000 for almost anybody's purse and pursuit. I found the ciching of Guy of Warwick (possibly by Cruikshank) for £8.

Judging by the heavy breathing in the theatre on most evenings, there are those who only memory of Shakespeare will be, literally, a midsummer night's dream, but for dedicated students of both theatre and playwright, a visit to Robert Vaughan's antiquarian bookshop at 20 Chapel Street (0789 293136) is essential.

Here is one of the largest stocks in the world of books about Shakespeare - 10,000 of them, sought by academics and enthusiasts from Tokyo to Tucson. While I was there a backroom treasure was brought out for a customer - a beautiful leather-bound edition of *The Flowers of Shakespeare*, each page an immaculately coloured flower drawing by Elizabeth Giraud and published in 1845: £500, but a rare trophy.

Robert Vaughan also has a splendid collection of books on the theatre with which he was involved for many years - and you could acquire a collection in one visit on people or plays from Henry Irving to Noel Coward, some for as little as £15.

The Stratford tourist season is longer than most but despite the hordes I have never met friendlier and more helpful assistants, both in the multiples and the small shops. One of the busiest is the Meer Street Delicatessen, where chef Eddie

Ward offers delicious home-made quiches and fruit pies, and makes up picnic baskets and hampers to order from the 2,000 lines he keeps in stock. You state your price. He will tailor the contents to match.

The steady flow of visitors has its disadvantages. "People think the streets are paved with gold, but they don't do their arithmetic," says Harry Pigott-Smith, secretary to the Chamber of Trade. "They come and go, leaving nothing much more than inflated rents behind them and gradually the sense of community goes too."

Bell Court, the modern precinct behind Wood Street and Henley Street, is an example of this transient feeling. It could have been a centre of excellence for miles around, but instead offers overpriced Victorian furniture, discount cosmetics and do-it-your-

self. Its saving grace is an extremely chic clothes shop at the Wood Street end called Mosaique, 31 Terrett Court (0789 295820).

Here Susan Nicolas draws a loyal clientele not only for the top fashion names she offers - Caroline Charles, Gaston Jauret, Umberto Giocchetti - but also for the fair with which she puts them together. You can buy expensive clothes in other shops in Stratford but you can still walk out looking dull. That is one thing you can't be at Mosaique.

Which is just as well, as this is not the sort of town where it pays to merge into the background. You may cross paths with fellow theatregoers like Meryl Streep and Anthony Andrews and almost certainly interrupt the regular and regular constitutional of a current RSC member, the now white-bearded Griffith Jones (remember *The Wicked Lady*). In Stratford you can soon begin to take wattle and daub for granted, but people-watching never palls.

The Sermon on the Mount, walk up the road and down to the canal for some lock-rich towpath walking past Kingswood to the railway bridge. The NT owns the reach of the canal between here and Stratford.

Just beyond the Navigation Inn, a lane branches off towards Badlesley Clinton, a house owned by the Ferrers family for centuries until its acquisition by the Trust. While there, do not overlook the chapel beyond the house.

Down the drive, a left and then a right turn at the next crossroads brings you to the finale of the walk - the avenue back to Packwood. Before leaving, however, pay a visit to St Giles Church to round off in tranquility a short walk filled with glimpses of the past seven centuries.

Iain Liddell

WEEKLY WALKS

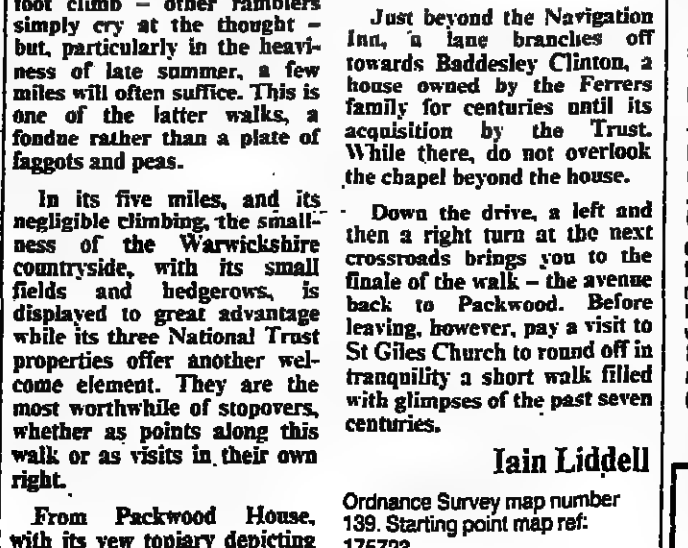
SHAKESPEARE COUNTRY
Distance: 5 miles

Sometimes the walker's heart cries out for a 15-mile route with a 4,000-foot climb - other ramblers simply cry at the thought - but, particularly in the heat of late summer, a few miles will often suffice. This is one of the latter walks, a fondle rather than a plate of faggots and peas.

In its five miles, and its negligible climbing, the smallness of the Warwickshire countryside, with its small fields and hedgerows, is displayed to great advantage while its three National Trust properties offer another welcome element. They are the most worthwhile of stopovers, whether as points along this walk or as visits in their own right.

From Packwood House, with its yew topiary depicting

Ordinance Survey map number 139. Starting point map ref: 175723.



A stylish blend of past and future

Sir Nikolaus Pevsner's advice to those visiting Stratford was to forget the Shakespeare industry and concentrate on the architecture. Easier said than done, especially when two young women in period costume bask in the cloud-filtered sunshine of an early September afternoon outside the Garrick Inn in the High Street, shooting range targets for snap-happy tourists in pursuit of Merrie England.

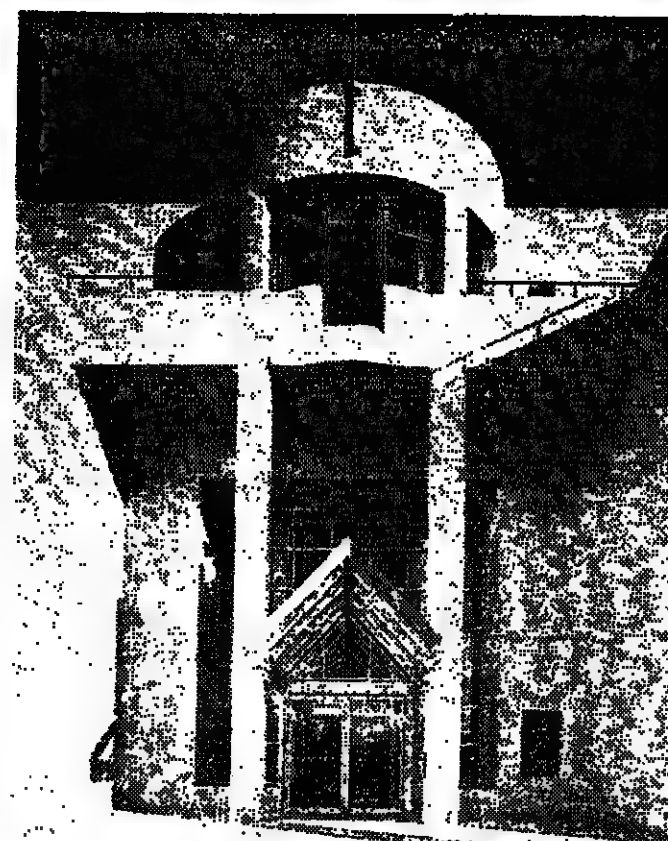
If the Bard's pen has engendered a thousand clichés, then Stratford itself is the cliché-ridden resort which one is tempted to despise for its inherent well, *Englishness*. It is also living proof that centuries of succeeding styles of vernacular architecture can sit happily side by side in spite of their diversity.

High Street multiples have inflicted a heavy toll on some of its finest listed buildings. "Facade-ism" is the result, where only the frontage is preserved, the rest ripped out to accommodate another chemist or building society or boutique.

But new is being skillfully grafted on to the old: from the southern approach across the River Avon, one can see the roof timbers of the replacement Shakespeare Memorial Theatre designed by the architect Michael Reardon. An anonymous benefactor is paying £1.5 million for a new 430-seat auditorium in the shell of the original theatre, destroyed by fire in 1926. Called the Swan, after the Royal Shakespeare Company's emblem, it will fill the need for a medium-sized venue for plays of the period 1570-1750 which are unsuitable for either the 1,500-seat Royal Shakespeare Theatre or the 150-seat Other Place.

It will have a large apron stage surrounded by three tiers of seats on three sides. Ideal for Jacobean drama. The design has been influenced by both the steep-pitched roof of its predecessor and in its use of decorative brickwork (which Pevsner attributes to North German buildings), by Elizabeth Scott's 1928 competition-winning design for the Memorial Theatre.

Stratford District Council



Modern mansion: New HQ of Stratford's biggest employers

now occupies the former headquarters of the National Farmers Union Mutual and Avon Insurance Group. An early 20th-century group of buildings which belie their vintage in Church Street. The Group, the town's largest employer, has moved out to a green-field site at Tiddington, across the river, though not without opposition from vociferous, articulate and well-heeled local residents, which led to a public inquiry.

The town is not the first place to spring to mind if one were to go in search of the office of the future. But set down in rural surroundings like a latter-day country mansion is the Group's new £30 million building, partly sunk into a formal garden. It was designed by Robert Matthew, of Johnson-Marshall & Partners, one of the firms most adept at giving clients what they want rather than what they think they should have.

Symmetrically planned about its entrance, the headquarters gives staff views, sunlight and fresh (not artificial) air in smoking-free zones. Visual display units share open plan space with luxurious foliage, and waste heat from the computers housed in the bowels of the building is used to warm the staff swimming pool.

The other feature which immediately strikes visitors is the way arts and crafts have

been integrated with the building. Something rare in modern offices. In the entrance lobby are eight marvellous pictures by Eleri Mills, a young Welsh farmer's daughter, depicting rural scenes in acrylic paint, silk and embroidery. Art for Offices was brought in from the outset to advise on suitable work for various locations, including the jewel-panelled boardroom.

Even the penny-watching members of the farming community who insure with the Group and receive regular tours of the building do not begrudge what many employers would deem extravagance. But as Mr Charles Thomas, the Group's managing director, says, Stratford deserves only the best. Though the Mutual's assets may have swelled to around £1 billion in its 75-year history, its greatest asset is a contented workforce.

Charles Knevitt

Architecture Correspondent

The Buildings of England: Warwickshire by Nikolaus Pevsner and Alexandra Wedgwood (Penguin, £12.50).

Stratford-upon-Avon: England Mini Guide 10p from the Tourist Information Centre, Judith Shakespeare House, 1 High Street, Stratford-upon-Avon (0789 293127).

Stratford Walks £1 from The Ramblers Association, Stratford-upon-Avon Group, 12 Hathaway, Stratford CV37 7LW.

Rare treat for discerning palates

A good food guide to Stratford-upon-Avon would be a very slim volume. There seems to be a great gap between the pretensions and the pre-masticated.

So Hill's at 3, Greenhill Street (0789 293563), is a treat indeed. Shaun Hill took over this attractive little eating place with its oak-beamed balcony nearly two years ago and has turned it from fading French into creative cosmopolitan.

He has an impeccable pedigree, having trained at Carriers in Camden Passage, north London, before becoming head chef at the Capitol hotel, also in London, and then the Lygon Arms in Broadway in the Cotswolds.

The menu is idiosyncratic. He loves eating and cooking all types of offal and has an

ingenious way of presenting it - hot chicken livers tossed in a salad with avocados, for instance - but nothing is predetermined as the ingredients are all fresh. He cooks what is available rather than sticking to a regular repertoire.

Fish is a favourite and he has special deliveries from Scotland, Aberavenny and Brixham. I chose a delicious shark steak in vermouth butter (£8.75). My guests pronounced the fillet of beef with béarnaise sauce (£8.75) and the sauté of lamb with thyme and garlic (£9.25) "out of this world". The well chosen clarets are not cheap and a two-course meal with wine will cost, and be well worth, about £18 a head.

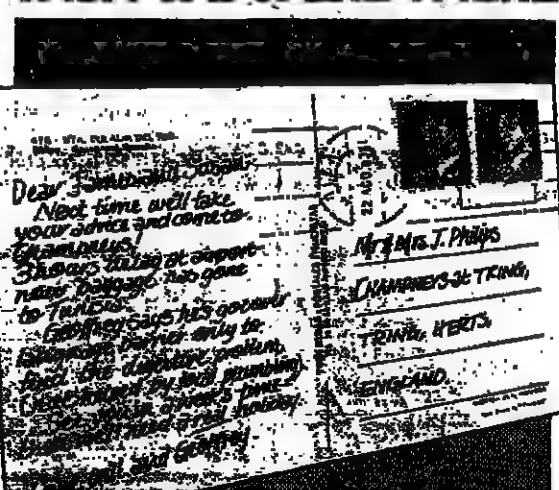
New to Stratford is Hussain's at 6a Chapel Street (0789 293506). It is decorated as only an Indian restaurant can be, with pink crushed velvet paneling. It serves excellent north Indian dishes, which are delicately spiced and not over-curious. Main dishes around £3.90, vegetable dishes £1.45.

For a quick snack Hathaway Tea Rooms at 19 High Street (0789 292404) has the least creamy but most delicious cakes at 35p each, coffee or tea 40p and light meals - egg on toast £1, picnic and chips £2.90.

If you are visiting by car and not counting the cost by Eton Park, five miles along the Oxford Road, the table d'hôte is £20 per head à la carte with a good wine could be £40.

B.D.

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also on page 32

ENTERTAINMENTS

BARBICAN HALL
Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2Y 8DS
Tel 033 8891/628 8795
Telephone Bookings: 10.15pm-7pm 7 days a week

Sunday 22 September 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Wednesday 25 September 7.30pm
CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, Birmingham Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Thursday 26 September 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Friday 27 September 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Sunday 15 September at 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
VAUGHAN WILLIAMS Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis
WATKINS: Cello Concerto
JOHN TOMLINSON: baritone DOUGLAS CUMMINGS: cello
LONDON SYMPHONY CHORUS
RICHARD BICKON conductor
Box Office Tel: 033 8891/628 8795

MAHLER 1985

Royal Festival Hall
Sunday 22 September 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Royal Opera House
1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19 October 7.30pm
LONDON OPERA
The Ring of the Nibelung, Part 1: Das Rheingold, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras.

Barbican Hall
Thursday 3 October 7.30pm
GALA CONCERT
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Barbican Hall
Sunday 10 October 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Barbican Hall
Thursday 14 October 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Barbican Hall
Sunday 17 October 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Barbican Hall
Thursday 21 October 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Barbican Hall
Sunday 24 October 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Barbican Hall
Thursday 28 October 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Barbican Hall
Sunday 31 October 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Barbican Hall
Thursday 4 November 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Barbican Hall
Sunday 7 November 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Barbican Hall
Thursday 10 November 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Barbican Hall
Sunday 13 November 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Barbican Hall
Thursday 16 November 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Barbican Hall
Sunday 19 November 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Barbican Hall
Thursday 22 November 7.30pm
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, London Symphony Chorus, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras. Program: Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Brahms: Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto.

Glittering prizes at the royal fairground

Few of the ten million people who annually visit the great museums and galleries of London are able to see the rare treasures in the private rooms of the art dealers. But it is through the dealers that collections are formed, and occasionally they put their wares on show to the public.

Fifty years ago the Antique Dealers' Fair was founded. Its successor, the Burlington House Fair, will be opened by the Prince and Princess of Wales on Wednesday. The event has always enjoyed royal patronage and the showing of treasures from the Royal Collection and this year is no exception.

The Queen is lending three Derby biscuit figures of George III and his family. Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, patron of the fair, is lending a George III gold snuff-box.

The Tudor theme of the fair celebrates this year's quincentenary of the founding of the dynasty. This will be marked by exceptional loan items: an 11-foot bronze gun and pewer from Henry VIII's flagship, the Mary Rose, the cross found on Bosworth field, early portraits of Henry VII and Henry VIII, an Elizabeth I cameo ring, and Tudor silver and miniatures. Three English dealers will create a Tudor room showing oak furniture, Elizabethan portraits and pottery.

For the first time the fair goes international. Fifteen of the 78 exhibitors are from abroad.

"Our celebration of the Tudors, noted for their mercantile enterprise, reflects appropriately in our invitation to overseas dealers," says Kenneth Snowman, the fair's chairman.

An example of Italian work is a pair of bronze angels by Giuseppe Sanmartino, Napoli 1723-1793, from Athenaenon, Monte Carlo.

Foreign gems are shown by English dealers too. Mallett at Bourdon House displays an early 18th-century boule bureau bookcase inlaid with brass, tortoiseshell, pewter and mother-of-pearl.

Wartski, pre-eminent in Fabergé art, offers an 18th-century diamond tremblant aigrette in silver and gold with hundreds of shimmering diamonds.

Art galleries always delight. Prestigious reputations demand that there is something notable to market, like the simple elegance of "Young lady with child and dog" by Boilly. This is shown by Colnaghi whose other paintings include a Nicolas de Largillière portrait, "Cavaliers at Rest" by Esias van de Velde.

The Burlington House Fair is at the Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1 (01-734 0852) from Wed. 8-8pm, admission 25p, thereafter 15p-7pm, admission 24p. Until Sept 22.



Rare treasures: (left) one of a pair of bronze angels by Giuseppe Sanmartino, 1723-1793, and (right) three Derby biscuit figures of George III and his family by Zoffany



AUCTIONS

FRANCO'S FIAT: Sale of 50 vintage, veteran and classic vehicles includes a 1972 Lamborghini (214,000) that once belonged to Beatle Paul McCartney and a rare Fiat sports saloon (212,000) that Mussolini sent as a birthday present to General Franco in 1941. Also, a 1921 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost estimated at 245,000 and a 1936 Dennis fire engine, 25,000. Heritage Motor Museum, Syon

MUSIC-MAKERS: A cello of the Gagliano Naples school, around 1812, estimated at 220,000, leads a sale that includes woodwind, brass and reed instruments, music stands and metronomes. Phillips, Blenheim Street, London W1 (01-629 6602). Viewing Tue 9am-4.30pm, Wed 9am-4pm. Sale Thur 11am.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Painful autumn of two Bergmans

Autumn Sonata, receiving its first television showing on Channel 4 (Tues 9-10.45 pm), was Ingrid Bergman's last film and arguably her greatest screen performance.

The cancer from which she was to die in 1982 was already present during the shooting of the film in 1977, and it is tempting to attribute the extraordinary depth and intensity of her performance to her knowledge that she might be seriously ill.

The more probable explanation is that, almost for the first time in her career, she was playing a part which stretched her considerable, but usually untapped, acting skills. For director Ingmar Bergman demanded from his actors far more than she had been used to giving in Hollywood.

These two internationally acclaimed Swedes had never worked together and did not know each other, particularly well. When Ingmar approached her with *Autumn Sonata*, he expected her to refuse. He thought she would not want to play Liv Ullmann's middle-aged mother and would in any case, prefer the film to be in English for the sake of international sales. In fact she was delighted to perform in Swedish for the first time since 1940.

FILMS ON TV



Powerful and poignant: Ingrid Bergman (left) and Liv Ullmann as mother and daughter in *Autumn Sonata*

The great man was, at the time, in self-imposed exile, following what he regarded as the outrageous behaviour of the Swedish tax authorities against him. For several years he had been working on a script on the theme of mother-daughter relationships, a subject which fascinated him.

"Perhaps because of their education, and this is my personal opinion - women are more afraid than men to show their aggressive feelings; they suppress them, but they go deep all the same," he said.

Ingrid Bergman plays a famous concert pianist, whose long-time lover-companion has suddenly died. Impulsively she decides to visit her daughter who lives with her boring pastor husband and her mentally subnormal and crippled sister in an isolated village. Mother and daughter have not met for seven years. Much of the film is conversation between the two - happy and superficial at first, then, gradually, revealing more about their damaged relationship until finally exploding in a cathartic climax in one long, searing, all-night confrontation in which, for the first time, the daughter spills out her resentment and the mother attempts to understand and respond.

Being Ingmar Bergman there is no easy ending.

"On an internal plane," the director explained, "what it boils down to, of course, is love. The presence and absence of love, the longing for love, Love's lies, love that is deformed and love as our sole chance of survival."

It is an emotionally draining, painfully honest film to watch, but constantly illuminating.

Marcel Berlins

Hitch in a view of Nazi terror

A Painful Reminder (ITV, tomorrow, 11pm-12.15am) contains images which might make strong men as well as children cry. But they are history's own and parents may accordingly wish to make sure that the television set is switched on.

The official British record of the Nazi concentration camps, the film was commissioned by the Crown Film Unit from Sidney, now Lord, Bernstein and intended to be shown in German cinemas. "No German can say he didn't know" insists the commentary, co-written by Richard Crossman, the future cabinet minister.

These sentiments were judged by the British Government to be unsuitable to the bridge-building mood towards Germany. The film was never shown.

Two years ago, Caroline Moorehead's biography of Bernstein produced a twist in the tale, remarkably involving Alfred Hitchcock. He had come from Hollywood to assist Bernstein with the direction, making the suggestion that the footage of skeletal corpses sliding into graves be intercut with shots of German countryside and villages. Barbarism grew from, and existed alongside, civilization.

The revelation of Hitchcock's involvement renewed interest in the film and led to its showing now.

TELEVISION

unturned, suggesting that he is aware of the dangers of the series becoming a run of intellectual one-night stands.

Multinationals (Channel 4, tomorrow, 5.15-6pm) uses board game graphics and dramatized extractions to show the structure of multinationals and their impact on the towns in which they operate. This approach leaves Richard Dyke's series fitting between bad fish and small fry, and the first episode - an account of the



Bernstein: strong images coming of Nissan to a small northern town - might well be subtitled 'Washington (Co Durham) Behind Closed Doors'

In time for the September/October rush of publications, Book Four (Channel 4, tomorrow, 1.30-2.35pm) returns with an interview with Anita Brookner, unexpected winner of the 1984 Booker Prize with *Hotel Du Lac*, now being filmed by the BBC. She discusses her latest novel, *Family and Friends*, with Hermione Lee. In the week's second edition of Book Four (Wed, 11.40pm-12.10am), Doris Lessing talks about her new novel, *The Good Terrorist* (see p. 20).

Mark Lawson

Reputations that rose with posterity

Until recently J. B. Priestley's works were considered by critics to be rigidly "of their time", but in the last few years their time has come again.

Priestley's 1939 "modern morality play" *Johnson Overboard* (Radio 4, Mon, 8.05-9.45pm) seemed more superannuated than most and was rarely performed.

The central role in Ian Catterell's radio revival production is played by Alec McCowen, whose voice - famous in the theatre for being

RADIO

as clear to those paying £3 as to those paying £12 - makes him a natural for radio and he deserves a part as large as this, which requires him to suggest the emotional and moral journey of a man's life.

F. Scott Fitzgerald, remembered in *The Beautiful and Damned* (Radio 4, Tues, 4-4.40pm), was, like Priestley, a

writer to whom posterity was kinder than the fashions of the time. Fitzgerald died in 1940, but only four years older than the century, with his books out of print and his name scarcely whispered.

Through the decades after his death, Fitzgerald's reputation rose; biographies were written, mainly centring (as does this radio portrait) on the marriage to Zelda Sayre, alternatively a source of inspiration and despair.

It could be said that a six-

week series, *The Family* (Radio 4, Tues, 8-8.30pm) will be of interest to everyone who has ever been part of one. But the catch is that orphans, for example, have missed out. And what about single-parent families?

Or, for that matter, corporations and football clubs which claim to be "one big, happy family"? Dr Christopher Dare, a consultant psychiatrist, will define "family", examine its infinite varieties and assess effects on its members.

M.L.

THE TIMES CHOICE

CONCERTS

SCHUMANN EVENING: The Wigmore Hall begins its new season with Brigitte Fassbaender (replacing Lucia Popp, who is ill) accompanied by Norman Shetler in a programme of songs by Schumann, Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-835 2141). Today, 7.30pm.

NEW HOLLOWAY: The world premiere of Robin Holloway's *Viola Concerto*, a BBC commission, is given by Rikva Golan with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Vernon Handley. This prom also includes Martin's *Sinfonia Concertante* for Two Orchestras and Dvorak's *Symphony No. 5*. Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (01-898 8212). Today, 7.30pm.

RENEWED PARTNERSHIP: Playing together for the first time in 20 years, Pierre Fournier and Arthur Balsam are heard in Rachmaninov's Cello Sonata. The Matings, Snape, Suffolk (072 885 5549). Tomorrow, 3pm.

BARRY'S CORK: The Musica series ends with the Arditi Quartet giving the world premiere of Barry's *Cork and Haystack's String Quartet*. Roger Heston joins in for the London premiere of Morton Feldman's *Clarinet Quintet*. Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London SW1 (01-930 3547). Tomorrow, 8pm.

SPRING WEDDING: Martin Dalby's *Nozze di Primavera* is heard from

DANCE

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET: The season at Exeter continues today with *Giselle*, with Leanne Benjamin (matinee) and Sherryn Kennedy (evening). Next week, *Swan Lake* with Margaret Barber (Mon, Tues), Claire French (Tues matinee), Marion Tait (Tues eve) and Kennedy (Wed). A revival of John Cranko's *Card Game* is given on Sept 14, 15, and to the season on a triple bill with *Les Sylphides* and David Bintley's *Meadow of Proverbs*. The Big Top, Exeter (0392 211080).



GABY AGIS: The dancer (above) with an emphatically personal style and experimental choreography, launches her own company at the Almeida this week. Her all-woman venture features three other dancers and a programme created in collaboration with sculptor Graça Coutinho and composer Anna da Silva. Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, London N1 (01-359 4404). Mon-Sept 14.

IN WHITEHALL: In the last of three concerts in aid of Hospice Home Care, Surrey, Iona Brown directs the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields in Handel's *Concerto Grosso Op 6 No 3*, Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No 3* and Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*. The Banqueting House, Whitehall, London SW1 (0727 34485, credit cards 0727 37799). September 13, 8pm.

For ticket availability, performance and opening times, telephone the numbers listed.

Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Dance: John Percival; Photography: Michael Young; Rock & Jazz: Richard Williams

ROCK & JAZZ

NYJO: Whatever one thinks of the sometimes tame repertoire chosen for the National Youth Jazz Orchestra by its founder and director, Bill Ashton, its consistent production of outstanding soloists over the past 20 years is praiseworthy. David O'Higgins, a tenor saxophonist already beginning to spread his wings in the professional world, is a name to watch among the present line-up. Today the orchestra plays *afresco*; on Friday it performs the world premiere of a new suite by John Dankworth, with the composer's participation. Today (1.45-2.45pm), Jubilee Gardens, County Hall, London SE1; Fri, Stables Theatre, Wavendon (0908 583928).

ROBERT PLANT: Thoroughly remodelled, Led Zepplin's former front-man presents his new act. Tomorrow, NEC, Birmingham (021 780 4133); Tues, Wembley Arena (01-902 1234).

WOMACK & WOMACK: Although their new album fails to reach the heights of last year's supremely

OPERA

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: New season commences with a preview tonight at 7.30pm of David Pountney's new production of Offenbach's *Orpheus in the Underworld*, designed by Gerald Scarle. The first night is on Tues, with performances on Thurs and Fri, when James Holmes replaces Mark Elder in the pit. The cast is led by Stuart Kale and Nan Christie as Orpheus and Eurydice, and they are strongly supported by Emma Belcourt, Sally Burgess and Eirian James. In between are more revivals, performances of Jonathan Miller's ever-popular *Maifonso* production of *Rigoletto*. Neil Howlett now takes the title role, with Helen Field as Gilda and David Rendall as the Duke. Mon, Wed and Sept 14, all at 7.30pm. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161).

SCOTTISH OPERA: Offenbach in Glasgow, too, opening the company's new season. Graham Vick's new production of the satirical opera, *La Vie Parisienne*, is conducted by Sir Alexander Gibson, with a cast including Kate Flowers, Anne-Marie Evans, Eduardo Alvarez, Robert Dean and Alan Oyle. The new English translation is by John Wells. Tues, Thurs and Sept 14 at 7.15pm. Theatre Royal, Hope Street, Glasgow (041 331 1234).

THE CURE: Odd to think that The Cure, who emerged from the post-punk wave and are now capable of selling Wembley's 7,000-odd seats, will soon be casting an eye on their tenth anniversary. Pirelli Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191). Thurs and Fri.

IMPROVISED MUSIC FESTIVAL: The fierce saxophonist Peter Brozman and the irrepressible Dutch percussionist Han Bennink are the main attractions at this two-night event. Pirelli Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191). Thurs and Fri.

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ENGLISH HERITAGE ORCHESTRA AWARD for Young String Players 1985

(21 years and under)
to be held at Nene College, Northampton on Saturday 9th November 1985
Principle adjudicator: RODNEY SLATFORD
1st Prize £200 & Cup
donated by Michael Jones (Jeweller), Northampton
Prize and S.A.E. for further information to the Festival Secretary
57 Park Avenue, Northampton NN3 2EX
Tel 0604/775004
Closing date for entries: Sat 12th October 1985

THE WEEK AHEAD



BOOKS

BY THE LEFT: Doris Lessing has set her new novel, *The Good Terrorist* (Cape, £9.50). In the world of squats and communes, providing a sharp insight into left-wing militancy. Her central character, Alice, takes up the squatters' cause against officialdom, only to be accused of caring more for the curtains than issues.



OPERA

STAGE STRUCK: Gerald Scarfe makes his debut as a stage designer for the new production of Offenbach's *Orpheus in the Underworld* by the English National Opera. Since Offenbach was no respecter of persons, the choice of Scarfe seems appropriate. Coliseum (01-836 3161) Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.



ROCK

SOUL SURVIVOR: Diana Ross prefers nowadays to give the impression that her career owes more to Halston, Gucci and Fiorucci than to Holland, Dozier and Holland, though she can still sing with humour and soul. Wednesday, Edinburgh Playhouse (021 557 2580); Friday and Sunday, NEC Birmingham (021 780 4135).



FILMS

OLD TIMER: Don Ameche, erstwhile screen impersonator of Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, is among a cast of veterans in *Cocoon* (PG), an ambitious fantasy about senior citizens becoming rejuvenated with extraterrestrial pods. Odeon Haymarket (01-930 2771) from Friday.



GALLERIES

PRIVATE LIFE: Gwen John, in contrast to her flamboyant brother, Augustus, was a painter who kept herself to herself, though arguably she produced more powerful work. This self-portrait is included in her biggest retrospective to date, 50 paintings and 75 drawings. Barbican Art Gallery (01-636 4141) from Thursday.



CONCERTS

CLASSIC DOUBLE: Klaus Tennstedt makes a welcome return to a British rostrum after a long absence, conducting the London Philharmonic Orchestra in two evergreens for the penultimate night of the Proms. Mozart's *Jupiter Symphony* is followed by Beethoven's Ninth. Royal Albert Hall (01-589 3212) Friday, 7.30pm.

THE TIMES CHOICE

THEATRE

IN PREVIEW

GIG: Beryl Reid, Sian Phillips, Jean-Pierre Aumont, in the London stage debut of *Lerner and Loewe's* musical, *Shogun*. Playhouse Theatre (01-437 3568/434 1550). Preview today and Mon-Sat. Opens Sept 17.

OPENINGS

THE ALCHEMIST: Ben Jonson's classic comedy directed by Giff Rhys Jones. Ronald Fraser, James Faulkner, Sylvester La Touzel, Terence Longdon, Raymond Mason, Stephen Moore, Daniel Peacock, Gavin Richards and John Sessions. Lyric, Hammersmith (01-741 2311). Preview today, opens Mon.

HARD TIMES: Revival of a production which won praise in December 1984. Four actors in an adaptation, by Stephen Jeffreys, of the Dickens novel. Directed by Sam Walters. The Orange Tree, Kew Road, Richmond-upon-Thames (01-940 8833). Opens Fri.

LIGHT UP THE SKY: Moss Hart's comedy of the theatre world of the United States in the 1940s. London premiere with Robert Morley, Hannah Gordon, Robert Stephens, Kate O'Mara, Maxine Audley; directed by Keith Hack. Old Vic (01-828 7816). Preview Tues. opens Wed.

SAME TIME NEXT YEAR: Dennis Waterman and Pula Lenska in a two-night preview of the *Bernard Shaws* play which they will bring to the Old Vic in October. Wimbledon Theatre, The Broadway, London SW19 (01-540 1363). Fri and Sat 14.

AMANDA: African National Congress Cultural Ensemble, a 30-strong group of South African artists, bring their full theatrical programme to Britain for the first time. In song, dance, drama and poetry they tell the history of South Africa as they see it. Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, London W6 (01-748 3354). Opens Mon.

SAD IN THE EYE: National Youth Theatre in a new play by a black 9-year-old member: six former socialist political indoctrination from sit and night. First NYT production of a work by a current member, Samantha Cowley. Theatre (01-242 0401). Opens Wed.

DTHELLO: National Youth Theatre production with 20-year-old Iqbal Khan in the title role: the youngest black actor ever to play the role in London. Swan Theatre (01-388 1384). Opens Thurs.

OUT OF TOWN

COVENTRY: South Pacific: Rodgers and Hammerstein's Pulitzer Prize-winning musical with 'Some Enchanted Evening' and 'Younger Than Springtime' among the songs. Andrea Levine, Jacob Witkin, Peter Land. Pat's, Belgrade (0203 20205). Opens Tues.

EDINBURGH: The Rivals: Shandean comedy begins the new season. Ken Bones, Duncan Bell.

FILMS

OPENINGS

DIM SUM (U): Wayne Wang's totally winning film humorously explores the emotional relationships in a Chinese-American family living in San Francisco. With Lauren Chow as the daughter being pressured into marriage and Victor Wong (above). Screen on the Hill (01-435 3366). From Fri.



THE FROG PRINCE (15): Jenny, a Sorbonne student, wrestles with the difference between love and desire. A film from David Putnam's Enigma company, written by Posy Simmonds, with Jane Snowdon and Alexandre Siderling, directed by Brian Gilbert. Warner West End (01-439 0791). From Fri.

CRIMES OF PASSION (15): Ken Russell's latest film - a lurid, misogynistic drama about prostitution and lust in suburban America; with Kathleen Turner, Anthony Perkins, John Laughton. Odeon Haymarket (01-930 2771). From Fri.

YORK: SAINT JOHN: Jane Lapolala, Tony Britton, Clive Francis and Anthony Quayle directed by Clifford Williams in Quayle's *Compass* Theatre production of Shaw, which will be touring in repertory with *The Tempest*. Theatre Royal (0904 23588). Opens Mon.

SELECTED

DESPERATELY SEEKING SUSAN (15): Determinedly insubstantial but amusing frolic with Rosanna Arquette as the bored New Jersey housewife plunged into amnesia and madcap adventures with rock star Madonna. Directed by Susan Seidelman. Classic Haymarket (01-839 1527). Warner West End (01-439 0791). Gate Bloomsbury (01-837 1177).

SUBWAY (15): Stylish, confident and foolish social feature from young director Luc Besson: a story of love, crime and rock music, set among the Paris Metro tri-rail, with Isabelle Adjani and Christopher Lambert. Lumiere (01-836 0691). Camden Plaza (01-485 2433). Chelsea Cinema (01-351 3742).

A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET (18): The outrageous horror director Wes Craven edges closer to the commercial mainstream with this turbulent tale of four young friends who find they share the same bloody nightmare. Leicester Square Theatre (01-930 5252).

THE PURPLE ROSE OF CAIRO (PG): Woody Allen remains behind the camera for this deft technical juggling feat, with Mia Farrow as a film-crazy waitress and Jeff Daniels

as the film character who steps down from the screen to sample real life.

Screen on the Green (01-226 3520). Classic Royale (01-930 6915). Gate Bloomsbury (01-837 1177). Classic Oxford Street (01-636 0310).

GALLERIES

OPENINGS

THE EMPEROR'S WARRIORS: Exclusive British showing for highlights from the 'Eighth wonder of the world', life-sized, life-like terracotta figures from the tomb of the first Emperor of China, Qin Shi Huang. Fashioned in the third century BC and rediscovered by farmers ten years ago, each figure is a portrait with both eerie and realistic presence. City Art Centre, 2 Market Street, Edinburgh (031 225 2424). From Wed.

SOLDIERS - A HISTORY OF MEN IN BATTLE: Warriors of a more fallible nature in an exhibition covering the period from Roman times to the present day, and coinciding with a major BBC television series. On show are weapons, uniforms and memorabilia as well as photographs and paintings of men in action. Promised highlight is an audio-visual recreation of a walk through an electronic minefield. National Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road, London SW3 (01-730 0717). From Thurs.

VERA CUNNINGHAM: Lost for 20 years, but now found by the Barbican Gallery, this painter's work will hang up for reassessment alongside that of her more famous lover Matthew Smith. *RODERIC O'CONNOR:* First major retrospective for the 19th-century Irish artist (1850-1940), who has, like Cunningham, been ignored by posterity. Barbican Art Gallery, London EC2 (01-638 4141). From Thurs.

LA TAURINAQUA: Bullfighting as depicted by Goya in his famous series of prints. Although impossible to tell whether the artist is expressing delight in, or revulsion for the sport, his brilliant inventiveness with the medium is irrefutable. The Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street, Cambridge (0223 69501). From Thurs.

D. H. LAWRENCE: ART AND ARTISTS: Compilation of art admired, copied or written about by the author. In major centenary exhibition. Includes some of Lawrence's early favourites (G. F. Watts, Rossetti), and some of his later (the Italian Futurists, Mark Gerber). Castle Museum, Nottingham (0502 411881). From today.

SELECTED

HOCKNEY PAINTS THE STAGE: Walk-in wonderland of stage sets designed and painted by our most famous expatriate artist, David Hockney. Although Bradford born, it is the sun of Los Angeles that has permeated Hockney's palette. The show includes sets to operas by Stravinsky, Mozart and Poulenc. Haymarket Gallery, 50 Haymarket, London SE1 (01-928 3144). Until Sept 29.

BRUCE McLEAN: The performance artist, sculptor and painter, is in the South Duvon gallery among the British 20th-century sculptors; his canvases in the enlarged Gallery of New Art. Closes tomorrow. Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1. 10am-5.30pm Sat, 2-5.30pm Sun (01-821 1315). Recorded information: 01-821 7128.

TORVILLE AND DEAN: Last performances of world's skating superstars today at 3 and 8pm. Wembley Arena (01-982 1234; credit cards 01-748 1414).

OPEN AIR THEATRE, REGENT'S PARK: Season closes with *As You Like It*. By National Youth Theatre. 2.30 and 7pm today. Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, London NW1 (01-486 2431; credit cards: 01-379 6433).

ANCIENT CHINESE BRONZES: Reproductions of 32 bronzes from the Palace Museum at Peking, cast in England in co-operation with the Chinese Ministry of Culture. National Museum of Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff (0222 397951). Closes tomorrow.

CELEBRATION OF CZECH AND SLOVAK MUSIC: Works by Janacek, Dvorak, Martinu and other Czech composers throughout October, with ENO production of Janacek's *Katya Kabanova* in November. Plus Bristol's 'Czech Fest' featuring Czech theatre, film, dance, music and exhibitions; and Czech film and music festival at Windsor Arts Centre. General information: Royal Festival Hall, London SE1 (01-928 3002).

LAST CHANCE

CAMERA PORTRAITS OF THE 20s AND 30s: Final showing tomorrow of photographs by Howard Coster of personalities from the world of literature, film, music and theatre during inter-war years, including Rebecca West, John Gielgud, T. E. Lawrence, A. A. Milne and his son, Christopher Robin. National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London WC2 (01-930 1552).

For ticket availability, performance and opening times, telephone the numbers listed. Theatre: Tony Patrick and Martin Cropper; Galleries: Sarah Jane Checkland; Films: Geoff Brown; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse.

The man who would be Falstaff



Roy Kinnear, who opens this week in a double bill at the National, tells Lynne Truss of his as yet unrealized ambitions

arranged for him to have elocution lessons. "After just one lesson, that was it. I knew what I wanted to do. The asthma left; the eczema left; and then I left."

He went to RADA straight from school and was for his first year much in awe of his surroundings, willingly believing everything he was taught. Then came a spell of National Service from which he emerged, he says, a different, more worldly person. "When I went back to RADA after the Army I approached it differently. I was much more selective in taking what was going to be useful to me."

Quite reasonably, he had become convinced that his chances of a career wearing lifts and playing juvenile leads was limited. "I knew by that time that maybe I would have to go into character, and the thing about this business is to create a niche and jump into it."

After the obligatory years in rep, Kinnear got two important breaks, the first from Joan Littlewood, and the second from television - and that was the niche he was looking for. Since he first appeared on *That Was The Week That Was* more than 20 years ago he has seldom been out of the public eye. He has starred in his own series, made countless guest appearances on other people's programmes, and recently has become a mainstay of the celebrity panel game. He has also worked in television commercials, most recently galumphing around Peterborough in the guise of a Roman legionary. An habitual self-effacer, he evades questions about the quality he brings to his television roles. "Well, they're all short, fat and bald, I suppose. And they're often sweaty - mainly because when I'm playing them I'm sweating. The fear I show is absolutely genuine."

What would he be frightened of? It may be difficult to tell when he is being serious, but he

makes so many references to learning lines that it may be assumed that it is a problem. That is where television has its advantages: "Autocues have kept my career going ten years beyond its natural life," he jokes. Adding, with one of those panic-stricken looks for which he is famous, "There are no autocues at the National, you know."

Another fear is that the audience won't laugh. That is where the stage wins out over television: "If you don't get laughs at the National, you can call it social realism."

But surely *Hound and The Critic* gave him gill-edged comic roles? In *Hound* he plays Birdboot, the critic of the "Ratting-good-evening-out-I-was-held" school of reviewing - a marvellous comic part. "We'll soon change all that," he announces cheerfully.

Still preoccupied with remembering the lines (because the director, Stoppard himself, "tends to notice if you get them wrong") he won't say whether he has found Birdboot an easy part. What he will say is that in general, "if you work like a Trojan on a part, it always shows. The parts that are most successful are the ones that have come most easily."

Each of the media sees him differently, he says. Cinema tends to cast him as wily characters in straight films. He has, however, just completed a comedy for Roman Polanski called *Pirates*, a swashbuckler starring Walter Matthau in which all the pirates are "a bit past it. The medicals for that were hysterical," he recalls. "If you could get on to the couch you were in". Kinnear has made a habit of playing characters older than himself. "At 51 I'm now actually getting to the age that I've been playing for the past 20 years. Soon I won't even have to put on a funny voice."

Is it still a bit early for Falstaff? "Yes, I suppose I don't really want to play him for a few years yet. If I did it now I'd have nothing to look forward to. But you must always come back to the theatre. Film and television tend to categorize you: they ask you to do something they know you can do because they've already seen you do it. And when they ask you, you do it. The theatre is the only place where you can extend yourself, experiment, take risks."

The Real Inspector Hound (directed by Tom Stoppard) and *The Critic* (directed by Sheila Hancock) open at the Olivier, National Theatre, on Thursday.

ARTS DIARY

Richard Three

Readers of Simon Gray's affecting memoir of the gestation and sudden death of his play *The Continuum Pursuit* at the Lyric, Hammersmith, last year may wonder about the identity of the actors auditioned for the lead role. Gray calls them Actors One, Two and Three. A clue to Actor Three is that he's described as being on the verge of "something big at the Royal Shakespeare Company". Gray says Actor Three turned down the lead role because it meant spending "too much time in the dressing room, not enough on the stage". Hardly. Readers of Antony Sher's *The Year of the King* will quite understand his reluctance to pass up the chance of playing an RSC lead as... Richard "Three".

Star quality

Glory by association for the six finalists of the National Screenwriting Competition, mounted by the enterprising Oxford Film Foundation. Starting yesterday and continuing for 10 days, the sextet are taking part in a seminar to discuss narrative thrust, cutting, wiping and second unit photography, as a bonus a starry band of British producers and directors have agreed to come and supervise the shooting of



Schlesinger and Lambert

extracts from the shortlist. John Schlesinger, Neil Jordan, Charles (Birdhead) Sturridge and Michael Radford of 1984 are all giving their time, joined by TV mogul Verity Lambert and the National Theatre's Bill Bryden.

Dons and reveals

Plans are well under way for English National Opera to produce *Don Giovanni* at the Coliseum in December, directed by Jonathan Miller, whose Mafia-style *Rigoletto* for ENO caused such a gratifying stir. But whose translation of De Ponte's libretto should they use? James Fenton, the original choice, dropped out in February. The ENO toyed unhappily with some existing translations, before settling for Anthony Holden and his wife Amanda. Holden is best known as biographer of the Prince of Wales, but his other talents have long been apparent. While still at university, he translated *The Bacchae*, which he had performed as a musical entitled *Dionysus Wants You*...

Ham-strung

The three-hours-and-forty-minutes *Hamlet* at the Barbican represents a considerable strain on the actors' stamina. But that's nothing to what it does to their cars. Last week, Virginia McKenna, who plays Gertrude, parked her car near the theatre but forgot to switch off the lights. Five acts and several corpses later, she returned to find the battery had apparently died as well. Ms McKenna cut a more than usually tragic figure as she sought the help of other thespians and passers-by in bump-starting her recalcitrant vehicle.

Shooting star

Koo Stark, whose first collection of photographs, *Contrasts*, was launched on Thursday, has some way to go to match the style of camera superstar Mirella Riccardi, whose large-format celebration of endangered tribesmen, *Vanishing Africa*, has brought her colossal fame and wealth in her native Italy. According to next month's *Books & Bookmen*, she has just been sponsored to take her lenses and filters on a "shooting expedition" across Africa. Since she'll be travelling mostly by water, it is surprising that her sponsors include a car manufacturer, Fiat, and Gucci shoes.

FIRST CHANCE

CITIZENS' THEATRE: Autumn/winter season includes productions of *Shaw's Heartbreak House*, *Goethe's Faust*, *Arsenic and Old Lace* by Joseph Kesselring, and *The New House* by Iddo. Tickets £3. Citizens' Theatre, Gorbals, Glasgow (041 429 0022).

ROYAL EXCHANGE THEATRE COMPANY: Autumn season opens with Noel Coward's *Hay Fever*, and includes Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*, and premieres of Trevor Jacobson's *Jack and the Giant*. Royal Exchange, St Ann's Square, Manchester M2 7DH (061 833 833; credit cards 061 832 7991).

THE MIDSUMMER MARRIAGE: Opera North's production at Leeds Grand Theatre, until Oct 5 (0532 453511); Manchester Palace Theatre, Oct 11 (061 236 9922); Gaiety Theatre Royal, Oct 19 (0602 372323); Hull New Theatre, Oct 25 (0482 20463/4). Plus studies and workshops on *The Midsummer Marriage* and *The Magic Flute*. Details: Suzannah Conway, Opera North, 46 New Bridgegate, Leeds (0532 439999).

HALLÉ ORCHESTRA: Season tickets on sale for the orchestra's 125th season, which includes new work by David Matthews (Symphony No. 3, commissioned by Hallé Society), and British premiere of new violin concerto by American Mark Kaplan. Witold Lutoslawski conducts a programme of his own music in January, and there will be appearances by Peter Donohoe, Nigel Kennedy, and Anne-Sophie Mutter. Season runs Oct-May. Hallé Booking Office, 30 Cross Street, Manchester M2 7BA (061 834 1712).

MALVERN CONCERT CLUB: The Albani String Quartet opens the 1985-6 season on Sept 28, which also includes performances by the Cummings String Trio, John McCabe (piano), and Nicholas Daniel (oboe). Subscriptions: £14 for all concerts. Single tickets: £4 per concert. Box Office, Malvern Festival Theatre (068 45 3377). Membership: Mr Knott, 2 The College, Malvern (068 45 61122).

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THE ARTS

Radio

The Irish Mafia

There is a phily saying attributed to the great Persian poet Saadi: "I fear you will not reach Mecca, oh nomad, for the road which you are following leads to Turkey." Have you noticed how often and in many different ways, people, while stoutly proclaiming "Destination Mecca", are in fact striding resolutely toward the vast and inhospitable terrain of Turkey?

Surely events in Northern Ireland continue to provide one gross example of this process: energetically at work. While the participants declare that their aim is peace and settlement, their actions, not to say their other declarations, show them to be firmly on the road to redoubled animosity and strife; and one programme last week revealed some of these actions at a level of individual daily life of which we, more or less outside the conflict, are not normally aware.

Mary Clark's *Too High a Price* (Radio 4, Tuesday) producer Margaret McKee gave a graphic account of how the paramilitaries of both factions go about raising money to finance their operations.

Noraid, as a Republican fund-raiser, may only be a small part of the story; it seems likely that the bulk of the money needed is extorted piecemeal from the people of Northern Ireland themselves by calculated threats to life, well-being or property.

Ms Clark gave numerous examples - from shopkeepers who had found themselves staring into the muzzle of a gun, to unlicensed drinking clubs or taxis, to the juke-box in the bar, all perfectly above board except that the publican had had no option but to put it there, and his profits, like those of the clubs and the taxis, go to the Provost or the UVF.

Then there was the builder who received a visit from two individuals claiming to represent a security firm. You need security, they told him. He said no. One night soon afterwards an expensive item of site machinery was burnt out. The two men reappeared. Terrible the vandalism nowadays, they said. Are you sure you don't need security? He did. The Belfast Yellow Pages, we were told, have recently filled up with security firms.

Some refuse to pay for "security". Not long ago a builder was shot dead.

The police confidently offer

their own form of protection, but the agents do not appear to share their confidence - which is not surprising when you hear, for instance, what a job the R.U.C. has just to get a witness into court. Indeed even one contributor to the programme sounded almost palpably uneasy - yet he was anonymous and exceedingly cautious. All in all *Too High a Price* described a funny way to win over hearts and minds which in the end is probably the only road leading to the Mecca Ireland wants.

I very rarely enjoy a Jeremy Seabrook/Michael O'Neill play as much as I think I ought to, and since *Life Skills: An Adult Education* (Radio 4, Monday) director Richard Wortley was no exception, and bore a fairly close resemblance to the authors' other work, it set me to wondering why. Perhaps I could complain that there was not much of a story, more a loose procession of events, in these scenes from the life of Joanne (Maureen O'Farrell), coping but only just with her trainee delinquent of a son and her footloose husband with great pretensions to macho violence but little capacity for it. Maybe what turned me off was a hint of caricature and even condescension in the portrayals.

We the listeners, seemed to have been invited to inspect them not just from the outside but also from slightly above and to agree with their delineators what an intriguing specimen your average ordinary man or woman is. And that seemed to me to be an invitation I have had from Seabrook and O'Neill before.

Just after halfway into Princess Anne's Tuesday Call (Radio 4), which was where I came in, it struck me that she had not quite relaxed. Nor had she when the programme ended. This was not the same lady who gave Wogan as good as she got. Of course it was a very different and in a way more difficult occasion - strings of unrelated, disembodied questions, some of them quite hard - but the overall effect was edgy. On the other hand this was a very last word to be applied to Fred Bannett who, in *Left My Heart in Sutton Coldfield* (Radio 4, Monday), employed an hilarious Anglicization of "The Chantanooga Choo-Choo" to demonstrate why English place-names feature so very little in the nation's favourite songs. Enchanting.

David Wade

Venice Film Festival awards: David Robinson

Gold Lions for runaway girls and Godfathers



Special prizes at Venice: A Golden Lion for the 79-year-old John Huston (left, with daughter Anjelica); the Jury award for Fernando Solanas's *Tangos: Exile of Gardel* (right)

The prize winners

Golden Lion: *Sans Toit ni Loi* (Agnès Varda, France).
Special Prize of the Jury: *Tangos: Exile of Gardel* (Fernando Solanas, Argentina).
Best Actor: Gérard Depardieu (*Police, Maurice Pialat, France*).
Silver Lion for best first or second film: *Dust*

(Marion Hansel, Belgium).
Special Prize: *The Lightship* (Jerzy Skolimowski, USA).
Special Gold Lions: John Huston (*Prizzi's Honor*, USA); Manoel de Oliveira (*Le Soulier de Satin*, France).

This year's Venice Film Festival jury, presided over by Krzysztof Zanussi, was deprived of three of its members: Frank Capra (87) suffered a stroke just before the festival; Guido Aristarco (67) a member of the 1945 jury, also succumbed to ill-health; Kon Ichikawa (70) took one look at the viewing schedule, sought his physician's advice, and returned to Japan.

The survivors, who included Eugene Lonosco and John Schlesinger, were face with a not very exciting choice: most of the major Venice discoveries appeared in the nine competitive side events.

In the event, Agnès Varda's *Sans Toit ni Loi* unquestionably stood out among the rest for the weight of its subject, its originality of conception, and the extraordinary performance of Sandrine Bonnaire as the runaway girl of the road.

It was gratifying that the other

outstanding competition entry (even the jury in the end favoured the French film) should be the work of the last of Hollywood's great old men, John Huston. The dexterity, wit and sardonic humour of *Prizzi's Honor* show all his old talent still sparkling at 79.

It is adapted from Richard Condon's novel, a comic deflation of the Godfather romanticising of Mafia families. The "honor" of the Prizzi family is in fact a merry-go-round of deceit, double-cross and murder.

The tone of the film is set by the nummified Godfather, marvellously

played by William Hickey, with his gleeful wheezy interrogation, "Somebody dead?" Another star turn of this enjoyable picture is the director's statuesque daughter, Anjelica, with her guileful shift from supremely glamorous witch to submissive Sicilian daughter.

From Soviet Armenia, Albert Mkrtchian's *Tango of Our Childhood*, a tragicomic of a tempestuous small-town family life just after the war, won a mention for the over-done

performance of its leading lady, Galja Novits, a local Anna Magnani.

Oddities of the festival's last days included *Dust*, an adaptation of J. M. Coetzee's novella, *In the Heart of the Country*, directed by the young Belgian director, Marion Hansel. Jane Birkin plays the young woman going quietly nuts in the isolated Cape Province farmhouse where she lives with her tiresome old father (a nearly speechless performance by Trevor Howard).

The jury intimated that they would have given the Best Actress Prize ex aequo to Birkin and Sandrine Bonnaire; but that since both of their films already had prizes, they declined to make the award. Instead they gave special mention to Novits, along with two other actresses, Themis Bazaka from the Greek entry, Pantelis Voulgaris' *Years of Stone* and Sonja Savic, the main actress of the Yugoslav *Life is Wonderful*.

Subway, a chic success in France, has helped transform Christopher Lambert into a "grand superstar". Interview by Simon Banner

Tarzan takes the Métro to stardom

Christopher Lambert was required to gain "two stone in weight" for his part in *Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, the Ape Man*. The film in which he made his international debut. It was mainly muscle, and very good it looked too, although the feat itself is not so extraordinary. Having the odd tooth or two pulled, silicon implanted left, right and centre (well, maybe not centre), or indeed gaining or losing considerable amounts of weight, are everyday matters for modern movie stars in earnest pursuit of a faithful representation of their screen characters.

In *Subway*, his latest film, all Lambert had to do to play the part of the loopy and literally subterranean Fred was to get his hair bleached. One is almost disappointed. But bleached hair, two weeks of domestic-looking in his wire-framed spectacles, his features rather disproportionate - but on screen his presence is commanding. It is beside the point that the passionate look permanently in his eyes is probably caused by his myopia: the camera, as movie people like to say, loves him. And so do audiences around the world. "If people see me as a sex symbol," he says with admirable resignation, "that's fine by me. As long as you don't take yourself too seriously, you're okay."

What attracted Lambert to *Subway* was primarily the role of Fred, a free spirit who blows up Helena's life because he hates safes, falls for her, and blackmails her - not necessarily in that order and mostly all at the same time. "I love the character because he is up and down all the time. He can have the naivety of a child, intent on just one thing and then suddenly changing to another, and he can be violent and aggressive. He's a mix of the Little Prince and Mad Max."

The script for *Subway* first came Lambert's way when he was just completing work of Hugh Hudson's *Greystoke* and was looking around for another project. He had plenty of offers from Hollywood but mostly for parts which were too similar to his Tarzan role. "You know, half-naked and long hair."

History, it seems, is full of semicircular muscular types with unkempt coiffures. Alexander the Great was one suggestion.

So *Subway* was a relief. "The moment I read the script I knew this was a movie I had to make," and what was perhaps something of a risk career-wise - to go for a relatively low-budget and French-language film - has clearly paid. New offers of work keep rolling in, though it is not really so long ago that Lambert was working in a London bank, admittedly more to fulfil his parents' ambitions than his own.

"I worked for Barclays for about five months. It was fun for about three weeks and then I was very bored. I was living in a kind of Barclays house in Southampton Row, and my God, I hated London terribly! Now I like it more than Paris."

Eventually his father conceded

admits Lambert, "whether you follow the story or not." Isabelle Adjani, his co-star, is always at hand with another dazzling outfit or one more amazing hairstyle (the most exotic is appropriately called "Troquois" after the notoriously dishevelled tribe of Indians). Her ear-rings are so bulky one fears for those undoubtedly sensitive lobes amidst slapping of train doors. It is hardly surprising that such a state-of-the-art chic has made *Subway* the box-office hit of the year in France and has helped transform Lambert into "un grand superstar". Before this he was merely "un star", though escape from such appalling ignominy has seemed inevitable since his emergence in *Greystoke*. In real life the 26-year-old actor may appear somewhat awkward - small, and domestic-looking in his wire-framed spectacles, his features rather disproportionate - but on screen his presence is commanding. It is beside the point that the passionate look permanently in his eyes is probably caused by his myopia: the camera, as movie people like to say, loves him. And so do audiences around the world. "If people see me as a sex symbol," he says with admirable resignation, "that's fine by me. As long as you don't take yourself too seriously, you're okay."

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to Lambert's desire to be an actor, and the rest, as they say, is history: stints at the Florent School and the eminent Conservatoire in Paris, and then fame and fortune and so forth. In between promoting *Subway* Lambert is busily completing the filming of *Highlander*, in which he stars alongside Sean Connery. "It's set in Scotland and New York," he explains, adding enigmatically "we're shooting in Wales." His character is no more scrutable than the choice of location. "I'm first seen in Scotland in 1500, and then in New York in the present day" - which, by a rough calculation, means he gets more than his allotted three score years and ten. "It's a real acting part," Lambert confides. Well, it would be.

Future possibilities for Lambert are obviously legion. He talks excitedly of the big-name directors he would like to work with - Kubrick, Scorsese, Forman - and the big-name stars - Meryl Streep, Jack Nicholson, Warren Beatty. He could even envisage producing films: "It's rare to meet a very human producer. I would like to be a human producer."

Around Hollywood it is even said that Steven Spielberg may cast him as Tintin, and his eyes sparkle with Titmouse enthusiasm at the prospect. "I would love to play Tintin. He's a mix of the strong, the violent and the naive. That's what I like. It makes him quite similar to *Greystoke*. And like Fred in *Subway* too."

Concert

Lucia Popp is in hospital and her Wigmore Hall appearance tonight is cancelled. Her place will be taken by Brigitte Fassbender, who opens the 85-86 Wigmore Hall season with an all Schumann programme.

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IN DEVON
Last night's football results:
1. 1st Div. 1-0, 2-0, 3-0, 4-0, 5-0, 6-0, 7-0, 8-0, 9-0, 10-0, 11-0, 12-0, 13-0, 14-0, 15-0, 16-0, 17-0, 18-0, 19-0, 20-0, 21-0, 22-0, 23-0, 24-0, 25-0, 26-0, 27-0, 28-0, 29-0, 30-0, 31-0, 32-0, 33-0, 34-0, 35-0, 36-0, 37-0, 38-0, 39-0, 40-0, 41-0, 42-0, 43-0, 44-0, 45-0, 46-0, 47-0, 48-0, 49-0, 50-0, 51-0, 52-0, 53-0, 54-0, 55-0, 56-0, 57-0, 58-0, 59-0, 60-0, 61-0, 62-0, 63-0, 64-0, 65-0, 66-0, 67-0, 68-0, 69-0, 70-0, 71-0, 72-0, 73-0, 74-0, 75-0, 76-0, 77-0, 78-0, 79-0, 80-0, 81-0, 82-0, 83-0, 84-0, 85-0, 86-0, 87-0, 88-0, 89-0, 90-0, 91-0, 92-0, 93-0, 94-0, 95-0, 96-0, 97-0, 98-0, 99-0, 100-0, 101-0, 102-0, 103-0, 104-0, 105-0, 106-0, 107-0, 108-0, 109-0, 110-0, 111-0, 112-0, 113-0, 114-0, 115-0, 116-0, 117-0, 118-0, 119-0, 120-0, 121-0, 122-0, 123-0, 124-0, 125-0, 126-0, 127-0, 128-0, 129-0, 130-0, 131-0, 132-0, 133-0, 134-0, 135-0, 136-0, 137-0, 138-0, 139-0, 140-0, 141-0, 142-0, 143-0, 144-0, 145-0, 146-0, 147-0, 148-0, 149-0, 150-0, 151-0, 152-0, 153-0, 154-0, 155-0, 156-0, 157-0, 158-0, 159-0, 160-0, 161-0, 162-0, 163-0, 164-0, 165-0, 166-0, 167-0, 168-0, 169-0, 170-0, 171-0, 172-0, 173-0, 174-0, 175-0, 176-0, 177-0, 178-0, 179-0, 180-0, 181-0, 182-0, 183-0, 184-0, 185-0, 186-0, 187-0, 188-0, 189-0, 190-0, 191-0, 192-0, 193-0, 194-0, 195-0, 196-0, 197-0, 198-0, 199-0, 200-0, 201-0, 202-0, 203-0, 204-0, 205-0, 206-0, 207-0, 208-0, 209-0, 210-0, 211-0, 212-0, 213-0, 214-0, 215-0, 216-0, 217-0, 218-0, 219-0, 220-0, 221-0, 222-0, 223-0, 224-0, 225-0, 226-0, 227-0, 228-0, 229-0, 230-0, 231-0, 232-0, 233-0, 234-0, 235-0, 236-0, 237-0, 238-0, 239-0, 240-0, 241-0, 242-0, 243-0, 244-0, 245-0, 246-0, 247-0, 248-0, 249-0, 250-0, 251-0, 252-0, 253-0, 254-0, 255-0, 256-0, 257-0, 258-0, 259-0, 260-0, 261-0, 262-0, 263-0, 264-0, 265-0, 266-0, 267-0, 268-0, 269-0, 270-0, 271-0, 272-0, 273-0, 274-0, 275-0, 276-0, 277-0, 278-0, 279-0, 280-0, 281-0, 282-0, 283-0, 284-0, 285-0, 286-0, 287-0, 288-0, 289-0, 290-0, 291-0, 292-0, 293-0, 294-0, 295-0, 296-0, 297-0, 298-0, 299-0, 300-0, 301-0, 302-0, 303-0, 304-0, 305-0, 306-0, 307-0, 308-0, 309-0, 310-0, 311-0, 312-0, 313-0, 314-0, 315-0, 316-0, 317-0, 318-0, 319-0, 320-0, 321-0, 322-0, 323-0, 324-0, 325-0, 326-0, 327-0, 328-0, 329-0, 330-0, 331-0, 332-0, 333-0, 334-0, 335-0, 336-0, 337-0, 338-0, 339-0, 340-0, 341-0, 342-0, 343-0, 344-0, 345-0, 346-0, 347-0, 348-0, 349-0, 350-0, 351-0, 352-0, 353-0, 354-0, 355-0, 356-0, 357-0, 358-0, 359-0, 360-0, 361-0, 362-0, 363-0, 364-0, 365-0, 366-0, 367-0, 368-0, 369-0, 370-0, 371-0, 372-0, 373-0, 374-0, 375-0, 376-0, 377-0, 378-0, 379-0, 380-0, 381-0, 382-0, 383-0, 384-0, 385-0, 386-0, 387-0, 388-0, 389-0, 390-0, 391-0, 392-0, 393-0, 394-0, 395-0, 396-0, 397-0, 398-0, 399-0, 400-0, 401-0, 402-0, 403-0, 404-0, 405-0, 406-0, 407-0, 408-0, 409-0, 410-0, 411-0, 412-0, 413-0, 414-0, 415-0, 416-0, 417-0, 418-0, 419-0, 420-0, 421-0, 422-0, 423-0, 424-0, 425-0, 426-0, 427-0, 428-0, 429-0, 430-0, 431-0, 432-0, 433-0, 434-0, 435-0, 436-0, 437-0, 438-0, 439-0, 440-0, 441-0, 442-0, 443-0, 444-0, 445-0, 446-0, 447-0, 448-0, 449-0, 450-0, 451-0, 452-0, 453-0, 454-0, 455-0, 456-0, 457-0, 458-0, 459-0, 460-0, 461-0, 462-0, 463-0, 464-0, 465-0, 466-0, 467-0, 468-0, 469-0, 470-0, 471-0, 472-0, 473-0, 474-0, 475-0, 476-0, 477-0, 478-0, 479-0, 480-0, 481-0, 482-0, 483-0, 484-0, 485-0, 486-0, 487-0, 488-0, 489-0, 490-0, 491-0, 492-0, 493-0, 494-0, 495-0, 496-0, 497-0, 498-0, 499-0, 500-0, 501-0, 502-0, 503-0, 504-0, 505-0, 506-0, 507-0, 508-0, 509-0, 510-0, 511-0, 512-0, 513-0, 514-0, 515-0, 516-0, 517-0, 518-0, 519-0, 520-0, 521-0, 522-0, 523-0, 524-0, 525-0, 526-0, 527-0, 528-0, 529-0, 530-0, 531-0, 532-0, 533-0, 534-0, 535-0, 536-0, 537-0, 538-0, 539-0, 540-0, 541-0, 542-0, 543-0, 544-0, 545-0, 546-0, 547-0, 548-0, 549-0, 550-0, 551-0, 552-0, 553-0, 554-0, 555-0, 556-0, 557-0, 558-0, 559-0, 560-0, 561-0, 562-0, 563-0, 564-0, 565-0, 566-0, 567-0, 568-0, 569-0, 570-0, 571-0, 572-0, 573-0, 574-0, 575-0, 576-0, 577-0, 578-0, 579-0, 580-0, 581-0, 582-0, 583-0, 584-0, 585-0, 586-0, 587-0, 588-0, 589-0, 590-0, 591-0, 592-0, 593-0, 594-0, 595-0, 596-0, 597-0, 598-0, 599-0, 600-0, 601-0, 602-0, 603-0, 604-0, 605-0, 606-0, 607-0, 608-0, 609-0, 610-0, 611-0, 612-0, 613-0, 614-0, 615-0, 616-0, 617-0, 618-0, 619-0, 620-0, 621-0, 622-0, 623-0, 624-0, 625-0, 626-0, 627-0, 628-0, 629-0, 630-0, 631-0, 632-0, 633-0, 634-0, 635-0, 636-0, 637-0, 638-0, 639-0, 640-0, 641-0, 642-0, 643-0, 644-0, 645-0, 646-0, 647-0, 648-0, 649-0, 650-0, 651-0, 652-0, 653-0, 654-0, 655-0, 656-0, 657-0, 658-0, 659-0, 660-0, 661-0, 662-0, 663-0, 664-0, 665-0, 666-0, 667-0, 668-0, 669-0, 670-0, 671-0, 672-0, 673-0, 674-0, 675-0, 676-0, 677-0, 678-0, 679-0, 680-0, 681-0, 682-0, 683-0, 684-0, 685-0, 686-0, 687-0, 688-0, 689-0, 690-0, 691-0, 692-0, 693-0, 694-0, 695-0, 696-0, 697-0, 698-0, 699-0, 700-0, 701-0, 702-0, 703-0, 704-0, 705-0, 706-0, 707-0, 708-0, 709-0, 710-0, 711-0, 712-0, 713-0, 714-0, 715-0, 716-0, 717-0, 718-0, 719-0, 720-0, 721-0, 722-0, 723-0, 724-0, 725-0, 726-0, 727-

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your right share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

1985	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
1	120.00	119.00	Asda Stores	120.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
2	115.00	114.00	Asda Stores	115.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
3	110.00	109.00	Asda Stores	110.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
4	105.00	104.00	Asda Stores	105.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
5	100.00	99.00	Asda Stores	100.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
6	95.00	94.00	Asda Stores	95.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
7	90.00	89.00	Asda Stores	90.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
8	85.00	84.00	Asda Stores	85.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
9	80.00	79.00	Asda Stores	80.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
10	75.00	74.00	Asda Stores	75.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
11	70.00	69.00	Asda Stores	70.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
12	65.00	64.00	Asda Stores	65.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
13	60.00	59.00	Asda Stores	60.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
14	55.00	54.00	Asda Stores	55.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
15	50.00	49.00	Asda Stores	50.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
16	45.00	44.00	Asda Stores	45.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
17	40.00	39.00	Asda Stores	40.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
18	35.00	34.00	Asda Stores	35.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
19	30.00	29.00	Asda Stores	30.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
20	25.00	24.00	Asda Stores	25.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
21	20.00	19.00	Asda Stores	20.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
22	15.00	14.00	Asda Stores	15.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
23	10.00	9.00	Asda Stores	10.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
24	5.00	4.00	Asda Stores	5.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
25	0.00	0.00	Asda Stores	0.00	0.00	1.5	12.0

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in today's newspaper.

1985	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
1	120.00	119.00	Asda Stores	120.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
2	115.00	114.00	Asda Stores	115.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
3	110.00	109.00	Asda Stores	110.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
4	105.00	104.00	Asda Stores	105.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
5	100.00	99.00	Asda Stores	100.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
6	95.00	94.00	Asda Stores	95.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
7	90.00	89.00	Asda Stores	90.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
8	85.00	84.00	Asda Stores	85.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
9	80.00	79.00	Asda Stores	80.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
10	75.00	74.00	Asda Stores	75.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
11	70.00	69.00	Asda Stores	70.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
12	65.00	64.00	Asda Stores	65.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
13	60.00	59.00	Asda Stores	60.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
14	55.00	54.00	Asda Stores	55.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
15	50.00	49.00	Asda Stores	50.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
16	45.00	44.00	Asda Stores	45.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
17	40.00	39.00	Asda Stores	40.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
18	35.00	34.00	Asda Stores	35.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
19	30.00	29.00	Asda Stores	30.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
20	25.00	24.00	Asda Stores	25.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
21	20.00	19.00	Asda Stores	20.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
22	15.00	14.00	Asda Stores	15.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
23	10.00	9.00	Asda Stores	10.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
24	5.00	4.00	Asda Stores	5.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
25	0.00	0.00	Asda Stores	0.00	0.00	1.5	12.0

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1985	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
1	120.00	119.00	Asda Stores	120.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
2	115.00	114.00	Asda Stores	115.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
3	110.00	109.00	Asda Stores	110.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
4	105.00	104.00	Asda Stores	105.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
5	100.00	99.00	Asda Stores	100.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
6	95.00	94.00	Asda Stores	95.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
7	90.00	89.00	Asda Stores	90.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
8	85.00	84.00	Asda Stores	85.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
9	80.00	79.00	Asda Stores	80.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
10	75.00	74.00	Asda Stores	75.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
11	70.00	69.00	Asda Stores	70.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
12	65.00	64.00	Asda Stores	65.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
13	60.00	59.00	Asda Stores	60.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
14	55.00	54.00	Asda Stores	55.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
15	50.00	49.00	Asda Stores	50.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
16	45.00	44.00	Asda Stores	45.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
17	40.00	39.00	Asda Stores	40.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
18	35.00	34.00	Asda Stores	35.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
19	30.00	29.00	Asda Stores	30.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
20	25.00	24.00	Asda Stores	25.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
21	20.00	19.00	Asda Stores	20.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
22	15.00	14.00	Asda Stores	15.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
23	10.00	9.00	Asda Stores	10.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
24	5.00	4.00	Asda Stores	5.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
25	0.00	0.00	Asda Stores	0.00	0.00	1.5	12.0

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1985	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
1	120.00	119.00	Asda Stores	120.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
2	115.00	114.00	Asda Stores	115.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
3	110.00	109.00	Asda Stores	110.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
4	105.00	104.00	Asda Stores	105.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
5	100.00	99.00	Asda Stores	100.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
6	95.00	94.00	Asda Stores	95.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
7	90.00	89.00	Asda Stores	90.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
8	85.00	84.00	Asda Stores	85.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
9	80.00	79.00	Asda Stores	80.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
10	75.00	74.00	Asda Stores	75.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
11	70.00	69.00	Asda Stores	70.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
12	65.00	64.00	Asda Stores	65.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
13	60.00	59.00	Asda Stores	60.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
14	55.00	54.00	Asda Stores	55.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
15	50.00	49.00	Asda Stores	50.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
16	45.00	44.00	Asda Stores	45.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
17	40.00	39.00	Asda Stores	40.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
18	35.00	34.00	Asda Stores	35.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
19	30.00	29.00	Asda Stores	30.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
20	25.00	24.00	Asda Stores	25.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
21	20.00	19.00	Asda Stores	20.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
22	15.00	14.00	Asda Stores	15.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
23	10.00	9.00	Asda Stores	10.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
24	5.00	4.00	Asda Stores	5.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
25	0.00	0.00	Asda Stores	0.00	0.00	1.5	12.0

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1985	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
1	120.00	119.00	Asda Stores	120.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
2	115.00	114.00	Asda Stores	115.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
3	110.00	109.00	Asda Stores	110.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
4	105.00	104.00	Asda Stores	105.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
5	100.00	99.00	Asda Stores	100.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
6	95.00	94.00	Asda Stores	95.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
7	90.00	89.00	Asda Stores	90.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
8	85.00	84.00	Asda Stores	85.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
9	80.00	79.00	Asda Stores	80.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
10	75.00	74.00	Asda Stores	75.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
11	70.00	69.00	Asda Stores	70.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
12	65.00	64.00	Asda Stores	65.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
13	60.00	59.00	Asda Stores	60.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
14	55.00	54.00	Asda Stores	55.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
15	50.00	49.00	Asda Stores	50.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
16	45.00	44.00	Asda Stores	45.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
17	40.00	39.00	Asda Stores	40.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
18	35.00	34.00	Asda Stores	35.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
19	30.00	29.00	Asda Stores	30.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
20	25.00	24.00	Asda Stores	25.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
21	20.00	19.00	Asda Stores	20.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
22	15.00	14.00	Asda Stores	15.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
23	10.00	9.00	Asda Stores	10.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
24	5.00	4.00	Asda Stores	5.00	0.00	1.5	12.0
25	0.00	0.00	Asda Stores	0.00	0.00	1.5	12.0

Prospective real redemption yield on projected interest rate (RPI) of 9% and 10%

INDEX-RELATED

BREWERIES							
153	Adams-Lyons	298	-2	10.7	37	164	14.1
154	Adams-Lyons	507	-1	10.7	37	164	14.1
158	B&B (Arthur)	231	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
159	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
160	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
161	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
162	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
163	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
164	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
165	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
166	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
167	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
168	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
169	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
170	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
171	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
172	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
173	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
174	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
175	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
176	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
177	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
178	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
179	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
180	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
181	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
182	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
183	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
184	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
185	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
186	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
187	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
188	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
189	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
190	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
191	B&B (Arthur)	331	-3	8.3	24	8	10.1
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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Key figures behind the dollar's resurgence

The dollar has risen sharply this week. Have we now seen the low point in the cycle? It seems so.

Every currency of any importance, heaved in the wake of the mighty greenback as it shot forward. The Japanese central bank was rumoured to have intervened to support the yen, as the dollar past yen 240 this week for the first time since July 11. On Wednesday, the dollar was valued against the D-Mark at DM2.8493; at last night's close, the rate was DM2.93. Sterling has plummeted through chart support levels at \$1.35, and closed last night at \$1.3265. A week ago, it touched \$1.40.

Two key figures appear to have stimulated the dollar's rally in late August car sales, and the unemployment figures for last month. In the final 10 days in August, car sales surged by an astounding 71 per cent from the level a year ago. Given the importance of car sales in the United States, analysts immediately started revising upwards their August forecasts for retail sales, industrial production and durable goods.

The assumption now is that the Federal Reserve Board has gambled and won. For the months the Fed has sat on the sidelines and assented by its relative inertia to a sharp rise in the growth of the broad money supply in the hope of provoking an upturn in the economy. Until this week, very little seemed to be happening, apart from a surge-looking upward blip in the velocity of broad money.

The buoyancy of car sales suggests that the consumer has finally woken up to the appeal of cheaper money. The August jobless figures imply that employers in the United States are also revising their plans. Against a July unemployment figure of 7.3 per cent, the comparable August figure is just 7 per cent, new non-farm jobs rose by 288,000. Last night, dealers expressed doubt about the value of the unemployment data, suggesting that an above average number of children returning to school may have fudged the figures. Against this must be weighed the sharp narrowing of the July trade deficit, a further indication for some that America's real economy is starting to move again.

The resurgence of the dollar poses new money market management problems for central banks. If the American economy is moving ahead again, then the Fed, for example, looks more likely to tighten rather than ease monetary policy. In recognition of this possibility, bonds crashed yesterday in New York. The long bond - Treasury 10% per cent 2015 - dropped from 101 1/4 to just over 99 1/2. The falls might have been greater were it not for the fact that to some extent the weakness of the American banking system ties the hands of the Fed, and makes it difficult for traders to envisage a full-scale assault on rates. The US Farm Credit System alleged this week that it needed many billions of dollars of Federal aid to offset the equivalent of three or four banking collapses, along the lines of Continental Illinois.

In London, the full impact of the dollar's new-found strength has not so far made an impact on the gilt market. In light trading, gilts were off around 1/2 point at the long end, and 1/4 point in shorts. Apart from a teasing upward movement in the Friday Treasury bill rate, and a rather higher than usual willingness on the part of the discount houses to sell longer-dated paper, little stirred. But if this Tuesday's broad money supply figures are as bad as the bears suspect, gilt yields at last night's close might look naively optimistic by the end of next week.

A timely step forward by Standard Chartered

Standard Chartered, Britain's fifth largest bank and not as well known as it deserves to be, is still largely a monument, though a lively monument, to Britain's colonial past. It has hundreds of branch offices in the far-flung developing nations of Africa and the Far East, as well as a large stake in one of South Africa's leading banks, but relatively little in the way of assets in the industrialised northern hemisphere. In recent years it has sought to redress the balance but with limited success. Had the mooted merger with Royal Bank of Scotland happened, it would be a different story.

Standard has now taken a useful step with an agreement to buy for \$330 million (£241 million) United Bancorp of Arizona, the fourth largest bank in the state. It is having to pay a high price for the privilege.

Legislation which becomes operative in October next year has lifted the wall of protection that has surrounded Arizona's banks for years, and Standard is taking an early opportunity to move in. The takeover is being made through Union Bancorp of California, which Standard bought in 1979.

That acquisition looked expensive at the time but it has proved to be one of the more inspired purchases by British banks in the US. Lord Barber and his colleagues at Standard are confident that United, which has a long relationship with Union, is of equal calibre.

Michael McWilliam, Standard's chief executive, concedes that the bank is paying a full price, but with others clamouring to get into Arizona it was probably no more than necessary.

For that it gets a well-managed bank with a remarkable track record in one of the US's fastest-developing sunbelt states. United's entire loan portfolio is geared to local industry and construction, making a natural fit with Union. The deal, which for practical reasons will not be operative until the end of next year, will be funded by a \$150 million issue of preference stock in Union to Californian institutions and from Union's own ample cash resources.

It will mean a slight dilution of the group's overall primary capital ratio, which will come down from the current 8.1 per cent to about 7.5 per cent. That still leaves plenty of room, however, to absorb the expense of a big acquisition in Europe, which surely must be what Standard is gearing up for. Since October last year, Standard had launched four undated floating rate Euro-note issues worth a total of \$861 million.

Since its \$500 million bid for the Royal Bank of Scotland Group was rudely blocked by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission in 1981, Standard's plans for home expansion have been in abeyance. A link with Bristol and West building society has been slow to yield results, and the rate of development of the "money shop" concept through Chartered Trust might shame a snail. Even the clearing bank status that Standard was granted last year has yet to mean any more to the group than just that - status. Yet Standard is as keen as ever to develop a significant retailing presence at home.

Its judgement when to move is usually good. Witness the foresight and timing displayed last April when, for "business reasons", Standard reduced its stake in its South African offshoot from 51 per cent to 42 per cent.

Not just a marriage of convenience

After a somewhat coy courtship, beset with much rumour and many blushing denials, the Birmingham stockbroker firm of Smith-Keen-Cutler has been sold to W. Greenwell, the putative broking arm of Midland Bank. The fee has not been disclosed, but Smith-Keen brings a dowry of £400 million of funds under management and 8,000 clients - a reasonable proportion of whom can be reckoned to have accounts with the Midland. Smith-Keen will retain its identity in Birmingham, but its London office will probably be merged into Greenwell's.

The deal is a reminder that the provincial firms have in the main been neglected in the rush to merge before next year's "big bang". The big City firms have been the principal targets of the banks and other institutions concerned with obtaining a presence in the market.

It was a frustrating and occasionally unnerving period for the provincial brethren, whose future has been far more uncertain.

The London alliances are beginning to bed down, giving the outlines of future strategy. The new combines are lifting their heads above the parapet and looking for opportunities to expand in the rest of the country. It is unlikely that the "hellions" will be quite as golden as in the capital, but perhaps there will be correspondingly fewer tears.

The provincial firms may be entitled to feel aggrieved that their potential has been underestimated in the new scheme of things. It is widely assumed in the Square Mile that their country cousins are only good for their client lists, but they have close links with regional institutions, particularly the pension funds of companies based in those areas. And they are literally closer to the boards of those companies, giving their research an immediacy which is sometimes lacking in the output of the London firms.

Elders to sell stake in pubs if bid for Allied succeeds

By Patricia Wheatcroft

If Elders IXL succeeds in its proposed record-breaking takeover of Allied Lyons it would sell half the equity in each of Allied's 7,000 pubs to the licensees. Elders' chief executive, Mr John Elliott, said yesterday: "We have done that with our 450 pubs in Australia and we find it gives them the incentive to increase business. We would certainly look at doing the same in England."

Such a sale, with the average pub now valued at almost £150,000, might bring Elders close to £500 million and would fit Mr Elliott's declared philosophy of trying to reduce assets while increasing profitability.

Elders would not continue to run Allied's thriving food business and the companies with which Mr Elliott is now close to completing a consortium bid almost certainly include those who would like to take over the Lyons food companies.

Mr Elliott said: "The food division is least important to us." "We have been in the food business in Australia, but our involvement now is very small."

He intends that Elders' ventures overseas should be in those areas the company knows best. Allied's brewing and wine and spirits divisions fit that



John Elliott: "The food division is least important to us"

definition, but food does not. Allied's chairman, Sir Derrick Holden-Brown, is afraid that the proposed takeover, which would almost certainly cost more than £2 billion, would involve the dismemberment of his company, but Mr Elliott dismissed Sir Derrick's reaction as "somewhat hysterical".

The Allied shares edged up from 186p to 200p, demonstrating that the market does not give any importance to the minimum 250p a share price which Elders had already

business climate is now much freer in Britain than in Australia. As National Treasurer of the Australian Liberal Party, the equivalent of the Conservative Party, he is not an admirer of the present Australian government. But he does admire Mrs Thatcher, whom he met when she was in Australia.

He is close to finalizing the consortium which will bid for Allied and is determined it will succeed. Since he became chief executive of Elders in 1972 it has mounted more than a dozen takeover bids and has succeeded in all of them, including those that were for companies larger than itself.

Elders only previous British takeover bid was in 1982 when it paid £54 million for Wood Hall Trust, the industrial holding company. "Our first offer was 200p and we got it at 215p," said Mr Elliott.

He was critical of the Allied management. "They lack strategic direction," he said, adding that many of their brands are tired.

Elders, he said, is one of the world's top three companies in brewing technology and could bring new life to Allied. Its own Foster's lager, sold here under an agreement with Allied's rival Watneys, had won a tenth of the lager market in London and the South-east.

IN BRIEF
Mowlem in Tesco deal

John Mowlem & Co. the construction group, has clinched a deal with Tesco, giving the supermarket operator an option to buy the freehold of 30 acres at Welham Green, Herts. If Tesco takes up all the options over the next three years, it will pay Mowlem £11.25 million. The land is in Mowlem's books at £3.4 million.

Tesco is to build a 250,000 sq ft distribution centre and headquarters on the site, having outgrown its offices in Chesham, Herts. But plans do not include a supermarket. Mowlem is negotiating with Tesco over the £7 million contract for the scheme.

Pearson up

Pearson is increasing its interim dividend for the six months to June 30 from 3p to 4.25p after pre-tax profits rose from £37.3 million to £41.8 million. *Tempos, page 24*

Imperial Metals Corporation, Canadian company which has been carrying out a diamond drilling survey at the Parys mountain mine site in Anglesey, North Wales, is "encouraged by developments to date". It is to use an additional drill to "Speed up the programme now expected to end in late October."

Salomon move

Salomon Brothers, the New York investment house, has agreed to buy PGB Securities, a division of Mabon, Nugent & Company, in consortium with a broad group of other securities firms and commercial banks.

\$45m debt deal

Common Brothers, the shipping company, has secured a refinancing package involving the conversion of \$45 million debt into equity. The shares will be repaid on September 30, assuming shareholders approve the plan. *Tempos, page 24*

Deloitte sacked

The American Savings & Loan Association of Florida has dismissed Deloitte Haskins & Sells as its independent auditor and retained instead Pent Marwick & Co.

Inquiry into share sale challenged

By William Kay
City Editor

Mr Christopher Moran, the man at the centre of the controversial Good Relations Group share deal, yesterday took issue with the Stock Exchange's decision to investigate the £2 million transaction.

The Stock Exchange announced that it was "conducting an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the recent sale of a large block of shares in Good Relations by one of its directors and the onward sale of those shares in the market".

Last week, Mrs Maureen



Christopher Moran: "acted on the best advice"

Smith, the then deputy chairman of Good Relations, the public relations group, sold her entire holding of 948,338 shares - an 11.6 per cent stake - to Mr Moran in a private transaction outside the market. At first she intended to stay on the board, but resigned under pressure on Friday.

Mr Moran, meanwhile, had sold the shares through the stock market to a group of institutions. There is some doubt as to whether those buyers knew the source of the shares.

Last night, Mr Moran said: "I am aware that anyone has complained to the Stock Exchange. I have acted on the best advice around throughout the deal. But Maureen Smith was forced to resign, and consequently there was a further erosion of confidence in the shares. The company created a rod for its own back in getting rid of her. After the Raper affair, the Stock Exchange feels it ought to be doing something."

Mr Moran said that he would be happy to give evidence to the inquiry.

Mr Lynton Jones, the Stock Exchange spokesman, said: "We were not asked to hold an investigation. We decided on our own account that we ought to do so."

Arrowsmith Holidays sold again

By Cliff Feltham

Arrowsmith Holidays, which was once part of Sir Freddie Laker's empire, is changing hands again.

The Manchester-based package tour business is being sold by the brewing group Greenall Whitley to British Caledonian Aviation.

Greenall Whitley bought the business after the Laker collapse in 1982 for £4.5 million. But it has been disappointing and is expected to make losses of about £1.5 million this year in

addition to write-offs of £350,000.

As part of the deal, British Caledonian will pay Greenall Whitley up to £250,000 depending on future profits. The brewer, best known for its Vladimir vodka, said Arrowsmith no longer fitted in with its leisure activities.

Arrowsmith carries 85,000 holidaymakers a year operating from Manchester International Airport where British Caledonian is strongly represented.

● The \$48 million settlement of the anti-trust action brought by the liquidator of Laker Airways against British Airways and 11 other co-defendants was sanctioned by the Royal Court of Jersey yesterday removing the last remaining obstacle.

The court ordered that Sir Freddie Laker pay all costs relating to moves through the court to remove Mr Christopher Morris as liquidator. The deputy liquidator called Sir Freddie's action "scandalous, frivolous and vexatious."

Babcock stake lifts Victor shares

Shares in Victor Products, the manufacturer of mining equipment, rose sharply on the stock market yesterday after Babcock International, the engineering group, disclosed it had built up a stake of just over 6 per cent. On the news the shares jumped 18p to 116p, valuing the Wallsend, Tyne and Wear, business at £8.7 million.

Babcock International described the holding as a trade investment and would not comment on market speculation that it is considering a bid. Babcock said there might be possible areas of co-operation in some of its manufacturing operations.

Mr Christopher FitzPatrick, managing director of Victor

Products, said he believed Babcock had first picked up shares in the company about four months ago. "I don't believe there is anything sinister about the holding but obviously I don't know what their intentions are. We are, however, committed to remaining independent," he said.

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COUNTY BANK UNIT TRUSTS LIMITED

A member of the National Westminster Bank Group

Management to buy Vosper

The state-owned British Shipbuilders is selling its loss-making Vosper ship repair business in Southampton to the management for an undisclosed sum.

The buy-out team, led by the managing director, Mr John Collins and the finance director, Mr Colin Johnson, plans to keep on the existing 220-strong workforce.

Mr Collins said it was hoped to break even in the first year on turnover of £7 million. Last year, the business made a loss of more than £1 million on turnover of £9.5 million.

Vosper recently carried out work on the Saudi Arabian royal yacht, the Abdul Aziz, and has converted and refitted two British frigates, HMS Dido, and HMS Zulu, for the New Zealand and Indonesian governments respectively.

STOCK MARKETS		MAIN PRICE CHANGES		CURRENCIES	
FT Ind Ord	1020.8 (+17.5)	RISES:		London:	
FT All Share	644.69 (+4.13)	Adam Leisure Gp	11 +2	£: \$1.3285 (-0.0415)	
FT Govt Securities	83.25 (-0.35)	Triplex Frndres	78 +11	£: DM 3.9820 (-0.0212)	
FT SE 100	1332.2 (+10.2)	Victor Prods	114 +16	£: Sfr 3.1997 (-0.0172)	
Bargains 22,561		Property Trust	8 +1	£: FRF 11.8169 (-0.0984)	
Datasearch USM	106.96 (+1.61)	Invent Energy	1350 +150	£: Yen 322.13 (-5.85)	
New York		Newman Inds	37 +4	£ Index: 51.0 (-1.0)	
Dow Jones	1330.86 (+5.04)	Barker & Dobson	100 +10	New York:	
Telco		Petranoil	155 +15	£: \$1.3287	
Nikkei Dow	12435.85 (-37.87)	Sennah Rubber	2150 +200	£: DM 2.5300	
Hong Kong:		Somportax Hgds	80 +7	£ Index: 141.1 (+2.1)	
Hang Seng	1579.06 (-17.62)	Empire Stores	146 +12	ECU £0.573141	
Amstaridams	221.7 (+0.6)	Fobel Inti	32.5 +2.5	SDR £0.746573	
Sydney: AO	943.3 (+4.6)	Crouch (Derel)	104 +8		
Frankfurt:		May & Hassell	94 +7		
Commerzbank	1499.7 (+26.4)				
General	430.12 (+10.4)	FALLS:			
Paris: CAC	220.0 (-1.1)	Hollis	68 -21.5		
Zurich:		Intervis Video	6 -1		
SKA General	408.50 (+4.3)	De Brett, Andre	16 -2		
		Squirrel Hom	27 -3		
		Sycamore Hgds	5 -1		
		Ramco Oil Servs	46 -5		
		Pentland Inds	26 -2		
		Accom Computer	25 -7		
		Bio-Isolates	25 -2		
		New Court NPI	26 -2		

GOLD	
London fixing:	
am \$318.75pm \$317.40	
close \$320.00-\$320.50	

New York:	
Comex \$318.95	

Bank blocked on loans

BORROWING

Home owners are being deprived of a cheap and convenient form of borrowing because the Treasury cannot make up its mind on bank and building society lending.

A storm has blown up around the launch of the controversial home loan scheme proposed by the merchant banker Kleinwort, Benson - we wrote about it in last week's Family Money. Kleinwort proposed to lend up to 70 per cent of the value of the home owner's property - regardless of how much the prospective purchaser actually needed to borrow to buy or improve the property.

This meant, for example, that someone buying a property for £100,000 but needing only £40,000 initially to make the purchase, would have an extra borrowing facility of £30,000 which could be used for school fees, to buy a car, or for any other purpose. The advantage was that this was cheap, long-term money.

The scheme has, however, been stopped by the Bank of

England, as technically it breaches guidelines issued by the Bank in 1982.

What the 1982 Treasury/Bank of England directive said was that banks and building societies should not make loans secured against a person's home for purposes other than the purchase or improvement of the property.

In addition, house-buyers moving home should be encouraged to put as much as possible of the proceeds of the sale of the old property into the purchase of the new. The aim was to put restrictions on secured lending as a cheap form of finance for consumers - and hold the growth in the money supply.

However, much has happened since 1982, and it has become common practice for banks, building societies and other lenders to turn a blind eye to the real purpose of much "home improvement" borrowing. And recently the Bristol & West Building Society launched a "loans for anything" scheme which is similar in concept to the Kleinwort, Benson plan.

"The Treasury had a meeting to discuss the Bristol & West scheme and decided to let it through," commented one senior official.

Is the Registrar of Friendly Societies (who regulates the activities of building societies) now going to clamp down on Bristol & West in the light of the Kleinwort, Benson affair? "It would not be for me to do so - that is for the Treasury to do," commented Michael Bridgman, the Chief Registrar.

Treasury turning a blind eye

The Treasury will not be drawn on the obvious inconsistencies in its policies. "The guidelines still stand," is the official line.

But the situation is nonsensical. National Westminster Bank, for example, has what it calls a school fees plan which is almost identical to the proposed Kleinwort, Benson lending scheme. Home owners can borrow up to a pre-agreed limit

against the security of their home at the highly attractive rate of 2.5 per cent over the bank's base rate.

At today's rates this works out at 14 per cent - less than the APR NatWest is charging for its main home loans. Not unnaturally, after the Kleinwort affair, NatWest is keeping its head down on this one.

Senior officials admit that the Kleinwort, Benson affair has been embarrassing. Next year sees new building society legislation - approved by the Treasury - which will give the societies freedom to lend, unsecured, for any purpose. How does this square with the 1982 restrictions?

"The Treasury was never able to police the lending policies imposed by the 1982 directive, and has been turning a blind eye to what has been going on in some quarters. What it hoped to do was gradually relax the constraints without precipitating a huge increase in the money supply by announcing that the 1982 directive had lapsed," commented a senior official.



It seems then that Kleinwort, Benson's "sin" was not that its home loan scheme contravened the guidelines - which were being disregarded anyway - but that it wanted to promote the plan.

A survey of lending institutions, not yet published, reveals that some 30 banks, building societies and other lenders openly admit to being prepared to lend to home owners for any purpose. And at least one major building society was planning to launch a

scheme similar to the offending Kleinwort, Benson plan.

Kleinwort, Benson has been forced to withdraw its home loan plan because of bungling on the part of the Bank of England in its handling of the affair.

And the Bank has given no answer to the charge that it is being inconsistent in clamping down on Kleinwort, Benson while allowing other lenders to continue with almost identical schemes.

Lorna Bourke

Some bargains to go for in South Africa

INVESTMENT

The South African Government has reintroduced a two-tier currency system, splitting the rand into "commercial" and "financial" divisions. The financial rand - applicable to overseas investors (anyone in the UK for example with investments in South Africa) - stands at a discount to its commercial counterpart. On Monday the financial rand opened at a sizeable 17 per cent discount, but towards the end of the week it narrowed to 5 per cent.

So any South African investments - held either directly or through a gold or commodity unit trust - will be worth less now than if you were a domestic investor in South African equities.

The idea of the currency division is partly to discourage overseas investors - whether individuals or institutional - from realising their investments. At the same time the two-tier currency encourages the brave - or the reckless - to invest in South Africa at the financial, and therefore cheaper level.

Bear in mind, too that while you can buy in at a discount, any dividends from your investment will be paid at the higher commercial rate. This

Good return from quality shares

means that, mathematically, there are some bargains around.

"If you were to buy one of the quality shares which is about to declare a dividend, it should produce a return of around 20 to 25 per cent over a 13-month period," says Anthony Richardson, South African specialist at Rowe and Pitman.

One reason for Mr Richardson's mild, if cautious optimism

about South African investment, is the behaviour of the massive American gold funds - the largest investors in South African gold mine shares. Some of these are so large that they have no option but to be committed to the South African market - Canadian and Australian stocks are too small for them - and the only realistic alternative is to sell up and go liquid.

Fundamentals still vastly superior

"There were fears that the American funds would be forced to dump stock - but there is no evidence of this having happened," says Mr Richardson.

Meanwhile at the UK gold unit trust counter - South African gold mining shares are normally the staple diet of gold unit trusts - most fund managers have substantially reduced their exposure to South Africa far in advance of the latest round of troubles. Many of the commodity and precious metals funds which enjoy broader investment horizons than gold unit trusts have steered clear altogether.

"We have been wary of South Africa for a long time," says Allied Dunbar, which manages a £35 million metals, minerals and commodity fund. "When the present troubles blew up we sold our very small exposure to South Africa."

One exception to the rush from South Africa is the £27 million Britannia Gold and General Fund. "Half of the fund is still in South Africa," says Keith Bryant, manager of the fund. Most of the fundamentals are still vastly superior to all but a few Australian and Canadian gold mining stocks. "If anything we are nibbling away at South African shares."

Lawrence Lever

Losing deal from Monte Carlo for motorists

INSURANCE

What you pay for your car insurance in 1986, or your household contents cover, will almost certainly be determined in the fairly late principal of Monaco during the next few days. Sounds unlikely? You bet. But this weekend 2,500 of the world's top reinsurers will be jetting into Nice airport and then taking the short car ride along the Côte d'Azur to Monte Carlo.

Most of those attending will be from western Europe and North America, but there will be strong representation from Africa and the Far East, as well as the Soviet bloc.

Reinsurers are the elite of the insurance world - the globe-trotting, mega-operators who insure the insurance companies. So, when a 747 goes down or a chemical plant spews toxic fumes into people's lungs, it is the reinsurers who sign the cheques.

This coming week they will be effecting more doom and gloom than usual, as they ponder the recent spate of passenger jet losses and the cost of damage to property in Florida and Louisiana caused by hurricane Elena. They will also go over the well-trodden ground of asbestos and American medical malpractice claims, as well as the problems of space shuttle risks.

But behind the official gloom, these sophisticated bookmakers will risk a sly smile this year. The reason is that the worldwide reinsurance market is hardening. That is good news for reinsurers and bad news for you and me.

It seems reinsurers will charge higher rates to their insurance company customers, which in turn will pass them on to policyholders. This comes after years of soft market conditions during which time

competition and over-capacity drove reinsurance rates down.

Now the tide has turned. Many of the fringe operators have departed - several with burnt fingers - and those that remain, including giants like Munich-Re, Swiss Re and M&G Re (part of the Prudential Group), are beginning to reap the benefits.

Chris Pountney, of the stockbroker Wood Mackenzie, says the message from Monte Carlo will be that the 1986 renewal season is going to be tough for reinsurers. This means that insurance rates are going to continue to outpace inflation.

Alfred Mahdavi, chairman of Lloyd's Motor Underwriters Association, which represents the 44 syndicates that transact

car insurance business at Lloyd's, points out that reinsurance rates come into the car premium equation. The extent depends on how much reinsurance protection the syndicate is buying.

But when you consider that some Lloyd's syndicates re-insure claims of £50,000 and even less at a time when court awards for personal injury can top £200,000, the relationship is clear. Even the household name insurance companies cannot do without reinsurance.

Of a 1984 property insurance premium income of £230 million, General Accident paid out a massive £27 million in reinsurance premiums. At Guardian Royal Exchange, the reinsurance manager Geoffrey Dash points out that even though his company is big enough to retain most of the risks it underwrites, it still buys reinsurance cover for catastrophes such as a major flood in central London. (Looking at GRE's figures released this week, perhaps they would have done better to have reinsured more.)

So when you are shocked at the premium demanded by your next car insurance renewal notice or you do a double take when the building society tells you how much your house power will cost in 1986, you know the reason why.

Peter Gartland

PRE-LAUNCH ANNOUNCEMENT

BRITANNIA INTERNATIONAL HIGH INCOME TRUST

Britannia Investment Services Limited announces that the Britannia Group of Unit Trusts Limited has applied to the Department of Trade and Industry for the authorisation of a new unit trust to be called Britannia International High Income Trust.

The Trust will aim to provide an above-average and growing income, with capital growth over the long-term, from an international portfolio of equities and bonds. The initial gross annual yield is expected to be about 6½%.

Reserve Your Pre-Launch Details Now

Britannia unitholders will

receive full details of the initial offer as soon as the Department of Trade and Industry has granted authorised status.

If, however, you are not a Britannia unitholder and would like to receive details, please complete and return the coupon below.

We shall then send you a copy of "What Unit Trust", a guide to investment featuring Britannia's investment funds and services, followed by full details of the Britannia International High Income Trust when authorised status is granted. Until that time no application for investment can be accepted.

To: Britannia Group of Unit Trusts Limited, Salisbury House, 29 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 5QL Tel: 01-588 2777. Please send: A copy of "What Unit Trust" magazine and the brochure for the new Britannia International High Income Trust immediately it becomes available.

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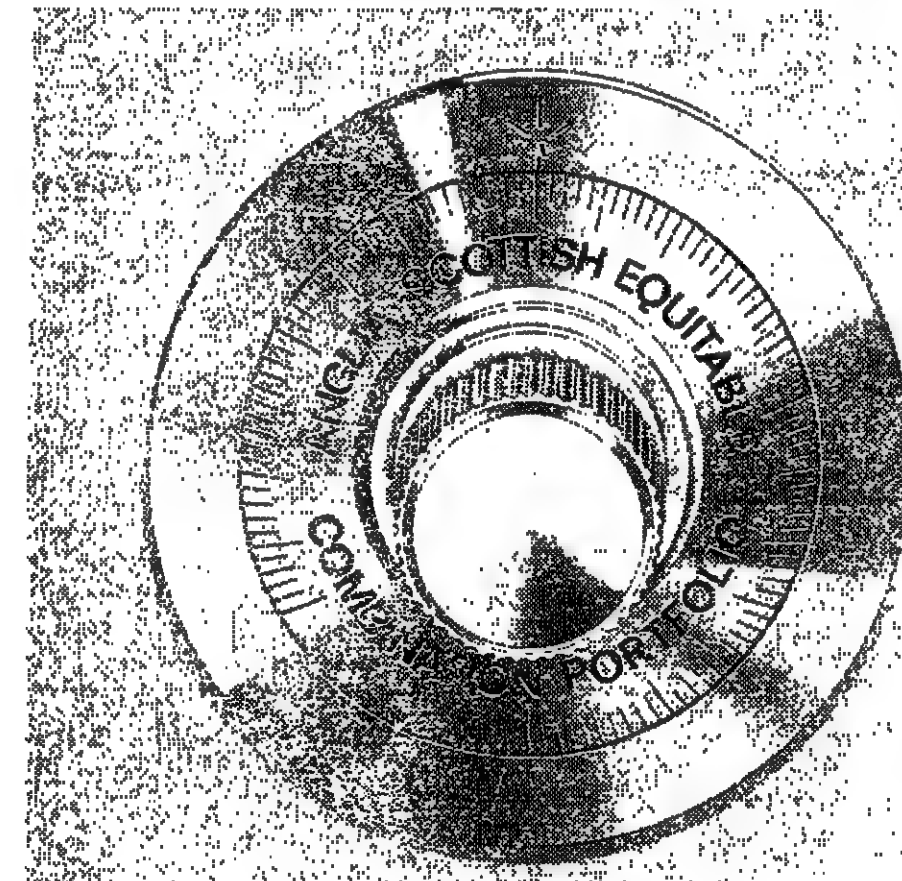
Scottish Equitable has a proven track record. A recent survey placed their Unit-Linked Pension Mixed Fund first out of 63 other funds. So you can rest assured that your investment is being handled by experienced professionals.

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very limited period. You are strongly urged to take advantage of this unique joint venture immediately. Simply fill in the coupon and return it with your cheque to the address below. And start earning the benefits of Combination Portfolio - the serious money management plan.



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Declaration: I declare that the above information is true and correct and that I am not a member of any other Scottish Equitable Life Assurance Society.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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FAMILY MONEY/2

Flutter in Asia offered by new fund

If you fancy a gamble you might have a look at a new unit trust from County Bank - the South East Asia Growth Trust. About 60 per cent invested in Hong Kong, it will be a pure fund, and will not invest in Japan and Australia as do some Pacific Basin funds.

"Many of the South East Asian economies are in their infancy, and have

correspondingly vibrant stock markets," says Richard Carswell, chief executive of County Bank Unit Trusts. "We believe that our local offices in both Hong Kong and Singapore will play a crucial role in responding to the opportunities available from this region's growing economies."

The initial portfolio will concentrate heavily on Hong Kong with 65 per cent invested in this market, 20 per cent in Singapore and Malaysia, and 5 per cent each in Thailand, Korea, and Taiwan. Minimum investment is £500 and there is a fixed price offer of units at 50p until September 27.

Details from County Bank Unit Trusts Ltd., 11 Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1BB. Tel: (01) 638 8000.

Offshore launch

Oppenheimer Money Management, which operates the successful Simco money market funds and a number of unit trusts, has launched an offshore fund in the Isle of Man. The Oppenheimer Money Market Fund will be run separately from the company's onshore funds. It offers immediate access, and claims that it will offer competitive rates of interest.

It insists that security will be cast iron, with deposits being made only with UK clearing bank groups and selected local authorities. Minimum deposit allowed is £10,000 and interest today's rate is 11.5 per cent will be paid gross, with the aim of attracting both expatriate and UK resident investors.

Christopher White-Thompson, chief executive of Oppenheimer Fund Management, said: "The Isle of Man is a

natural choice for us, offering good facilities and communications, and a level of costs which enables us to offer a first-class competitive service."

Free at the Midland

Anxious to restore the image of its branches as places to go for financial advice, the Midland Bank is offering free personal financial counselling to all its customers. Up to now this was free only to retired customers with a high interest cheque account and to holders of the gold Mastercard. All other customers were charged £30 an hour plus VAT, which must have acted as a powerful deterrent.

Midland says it can advise on everything from tax to making a Will, investment or simply an overall appraisal of your financial situation. Details from Midland branches.

Self-employed aid

Employed people who have tax deducted at source before they even see their wages, believe that the self-employed setting out the taxman. Whether or not this is true is difficult to say, but there is no doubt that it can be tricky persuading the Inland Revenue that you are self-employed if you decide to make the change.

The accountants Brebner, Allen & Trapp have produced a booklet *Can I Be Self-Employed?* setting out the conditions for being treated as such. Many of these would not be obvious to those uninitiated in the vagaries of dealing with the Revenue. Copies of the booklet are available free

from Brebner, Allen & Trapp, 109 Baker Street, London W1M 2BH. Tel: 01-486 0188.



NatWest saver Lady Hilary

Lucky pig

More than one million pigs have been given away (piggy banks that is) by NatWest Bank following the launch of its Piggy Bank Accounts for children in December 1983. The lucky recipient of the million pig was nine-year-old Mark Lea, from Macclesfield. He received a commemorative version of the Lady Hilary piggy bank together with a cheque for £500.

About half a million children have opened

Piggy Bank accounts. When an account is opened with a minimum deposit of £3, the accountholder receives baby piggy. Woody. For every £25 saved another piggy bank is allocated - a sister Annabel at £25, elder brother Maxwell at £50, Lady Hilary and Sir Nathaniel at £75 and £100 respectively.

Tax double

Two new books on tax which go on sale this week, provide both the employed and self-employed with an easily understood guide to personal tax. Written by two tax specialists from the accountant Touche Ross, the two titles, the *Touche Ross Tax Guide for the Self-Employed 1985-86* and the *Touche Ross Tax Guide to Pay and Payee 1985-86*, are good value at £4.95 each.

The self-employed guide covers the tax aspects of running a small business, partnerships, VAT and retirement planning as well as the basics of tax for the self-employed. For those who pay tax under PAYE the guide to pay and payee covers the tax treatment of expenses, cars, living accommodation, cheap loans and a number of other areas along with simple details of how to check that the correct amount of tax is being deducted.

Travel spur

A new car may be essential to a salesman, but apparently what really turns him on is the prospect of free travel. "Travel is the ultimate incentive to reward the super salesperson," says the Institute of Sales and Marketing Management, which highlights the

plethora of travel incentives now being offered. But it sounds a note of caution. "The Inland Revenue has a department devoted solely to assessing the value of incentives provided by companies for their employees. Incentive travel does, in fact, give the lucky participant added income, or a benefit in kind."

The latest issue of the institute's journal, *Sales and Marketing Management*, sets out advice to employers on how to avoid unwanted attention from the Inland Revenue.

CGT calculator

A taxation service has been launched which provides accountants and tax consultants with March 31, 1982 valuations of securities and unit trusts necessary to calculate capital gains tax liabilities. The service is offered by Stubbs Taxation Service, a subsidiary of Dun and Bradstreet.

Changes introduced in the 1985 Finance Act mean that from April 1985 CGT liabilities can be reduced on disposals of securities by applying an inflation allowance to their March 1982 value. The first issue of the Stubbs service lists 1982 values of all securities and unit trusts, and also gives an adjustment for inflation in April 1985 for disposals in that month. Subsequent monthly issues will calculate the inflation allowance for sales in each month in the light of indexation changes.

Details from Christopher Syer, Dun & Bradstreet Ltd., 25-32 Clifton Street, London EC2P 2LY. Tel: (01) 377 4377.

Share deals in the home

For ten months some of Nottingham Building Society's customers have been able to buy and sell shares from the comfort of their own homes. Nottingham has been running its Homelink share service in conjunction with the stockbroker, Scrimgeour Vickers, and it has proved so popular that it is now being offered to all Nottingham's Homelink subscribers.

Instructions to buy or sell a share or shares can be sent via Homelink to the broker at any time, for action the same day or as soon as dealing reopens. Payment for shares is made by electronic fund transfer to Scrimgeour Vickers, and profits are credited to the subscriber's building society account by the same route. Homelink customers are able to trade as little as £300 worth of shares (normally the minimum bargain is £1,000) and minimum commission is £15 compared with the more usual £25.

To become a member of Homelink, you have to invest a minimum of £1,000 with the Nottingham Building Society.

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Fulton Packshaw Ltd., 34-40 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7JT
Laurie, Milbank & Co., Portland House, 72/73 Basinghall Street, London EC2V 5DP
Rowe & Pitman, 1 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA

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ABOUT BRITANNIA GROUP.
Britannia is one of the leading Investment Management Groups in the U.K., Channel Islands and U.S.A. and now manages in excess of \$4,000m. on behalf of 350,000 investors worldwide, including 1,000 institutional clients from its offices in London, Jersey, Denver and Boston.

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*Calculated as at 2nd September 1985.
†The fund is based in Jersey and is listed on The Stock Exchange, London.

†NOTE - U.K. resident shareholders will, depending on their circumstances, be liable to U.K. taxation in respect of dividends they receive. Investors should recognise that while Gilts provide a very high immediate return, the prospects of capital gain in the fund may vary. The fund should therefore be considered as part of an overall balanced portfolio.

Britannia International Investment Management Limited
PO Box 271, Queen's House, Queen Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands
Telephone: Jersey (0334) 73114 Telex: 479202

The great divide in housing

RATES

How much do you pay in rates? If you live in Middlesbrough your rates will be a massive 235.5p in the pound, and will have gone up by nearly 12 per cent in the past year. On the other hand, ratepayers in Gillingham, Kent, get away with a rate of 132.5p and saw an increase of only 4.3 per cent, according to tables from Blay's Guides.

"The tables emphasize the considerable disparity in rate charges levied throughout the country," commented Donald Black, managing director of Blay's. "In some respects this contributes to the continuing north-south divide."

"The highest poundages and increases are in the more northerly depressed urban districts, and the lowest, in the more southerly, rural areas. This means that in many cases householders in the north face much higher rates bills which, coupled with poorer job prospects, accentuate the disparities between north and south."

"In Scotland the recent revaluation has produced greater disparities than before, with an average increase of

18.19 per cent for householders. The overall pattern shows that it is the districts with the lowest rates which have produced the smallest increases - a useful pointer to prospective house buyers.

"Rates vary considerably in most cities, and prospective house buyers should choose their location carefully."

The survey covered the rates charged by county, district and borough councils in England, Scotland and Wales. Three counties - Cambridgeshire, Cornwall and Somerset - have kept their rates down in 1985-86

and continue to charge well below the average.

The rating system is in the political spotlight once again. Part of the Government's original election manifesto was a promise to reform the rates. As yet no one has been able to come up with an acceptable alternative.

Copies of *Blay's Guide to Domestic Rates* are available from Blay's Guides Ltd, Churchfields Road, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks. SL9 9EW. Tel: Gerrards Cross (0753) 384417. Price £4.95

LB

HOW RATES COMPARE

County	District	1984/5(p)	1985/6(p)	Flow %
HIGHEST				
Durham	Wear Valley	174.0	198.0	13.78
Derbyshire	Chesterfield	190.0	198.5	4.47
Nottinghamshire	Bassettlaw	179.0	199.5	11.45
Northumbria	Wansbeck	188.5	202.5	7.43
Essex	Harlow	185.9	206.2	10.82
Bristol	Avon	183.73	207.1	6.91
Cleveland	Hartlepool	197.5	218.5	10.63
Cleveland	Stockton on Tees	194.5	223.5	14.91
Cleveland	Langbaurgh	210.5	230.5	9.50
Cleveland	Middlesbrough	211.0	235.5	11.61
LOWEST				
Kent	Gillingham	127.04	132.5	4.30
West Sussex	Chichester	125.0	136.0	8.80
Norfolk	Broadland	125.5	136.5	8.76
Norfolk	South Norfolk	127.5	136.6	7.06
Wiltshire	Salisbury	126.0	137.0	8.73
Cambridgeshire	E. Cambridgeshire	131.5	137.0	4.19
Norfolk	Breckland	127.5	137.5	7.84
Shropshire	Bridgnorth	126.8	138.0	8.83
Norfolk	North Norfolk	129.2	138.0	8.81
Kent	Rochester City	130.99	138.09	5.42

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Lloyd's League Tables

In an article in *Family Money* on August 24, "Decision days at Lloyd's", Syndicate 469 appeared in the list of worst non-marine syndicates with a loss of £4,279 for a £10,000 line in 1982. Chaslet Ltd, publisher of *Lloyd's League Tables*, has informed us that its figure of £4,279 was wrong and Syndicate 469's loss on a £10,000 line was £698, taking it well out of the list of worst-performing syndicates for 1982.

In the same table, Mr Ralph Bailey appeared as underwriter to non-marine Syndicates 137, 940 and 918. We have been asked to make it clear that Mr Bailey played no part in the underwriting decisions for Syndicates 940 and 918 resulting in the 1982 losses, and that he became associated with these syndicates only in August 1984. He has never underwritten for Syndicate 137.

We apologize for these errors.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	11 1/2%
Admiral Company	11 1/2%
Barclays	11 1/2%
BCCI	11 1/2%
Citibank Savings	11 1/2%
Consolidated Credit	11 1/2%
Co-operative Bank	11 1/2%
C. House & Co	11 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	11 1/2%
Midland Bank	11 1/2%
Nat Westminster	11 1/2%
TSB	11 1/2%
Williams & Glyn's	11 1/2%
Citibank NA	11 1/2%

* Mortgage Base Rate.

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gross equivalent to basic rate taxpayers

10.25% = 14.64%
gross equivalent to basic rate taxpayers

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FAMILY MONEY/3

The case of the lawyers who sell houses

PROPERTY

A battle for housing business has broken out in Crawley, Sussex, between solicitors and estate agents. The Solicitors Property Centre, set up and funded by seven of the 12 firms of solicitors in the town is in direct competition with local estate agents.

It offers to sell property and provide legal back-up for a flat fee of 1.5 per cent of the sale price (plus VAT). To sell a property you have to use one of the seven solicitors to carry out the legal work. If you buy you can use one of the centre's solicitors for a fee of 0.6 per cent of the purchase price.

The centre's manager, Mike Alexander, said: "We have taken on 350 houses since we began and we are selling an average of 15 properties a week. We are taking on additional staff."

Building societies in Crawley have allocated large amounts of money for mortgages. But estate agents in the town are far from pleased.

One said: "I do not see why we need another selling agent in the town. There is a great risk of conflict of interest between the selling side and the legal side. There are times in a transaction when the estate agent has to chase up the seller's solicitors. I do not see how the Solicitors Property Centre could exert the

same pressure when it is the solicitors themselves who are funding it."

Mr. Alexander disagrees, but the estate agents have advertised in the local press, saying: "Why gamble with your most valuable asset? Do not risk untested methods". They are refusing to cooperate with the centre in the selling of houses.

The agents are also not referring clients to the solicitors' firms which belong to the centre. One agent has taken away all his personal legal work from the long-standing family solicitor who is also a member.

The other five legal firms in the town are reaping the benefits. A week before the centre opened, they joined together to launch a "best-price house scheme". This involves close liaison with estate agents, and is designed to speed up

The Law Society is sitting on the fence

conveyancing. They say, they can match the fee package offered by the Property Centre. Peter Jenner, one of the "best-price" solicitors, doubts whether there is a potential conflict of interest in the Property Centre. The Law Society, the solicitors' governing body, is sitting firmly on the fence. It is not prepared to support the idea of the Solicitors Property Centre until it sees how the centre is working.

The Law Society, however, is not so open-minded when put together house-buying packages. The Black Horse Agency, the largest estate agent in Britain and part of Lloyds Bank, recently approached the Law Society to suggest a package for "one-stop" house-buying. This would involve a link with local solicitors by means of a referral system. The Law Society was against it.

A spokesman for Black Horse said: "We cannot understand the Law Society's attitude. We were proposing to use existing firms of solicitors where we knew that the buyers would get good professional advice."

"We went through the proper channels by approaching the society and we have found ourselves at a disadvantage. We know that Debenhams and other property shops are offer-



Mike Alexander, solicitor-estate agent

ing house selling and conveyancing packages using solicitors for the legal work."

The Law Society confirms that the Debenhams scheme had not received its approval. The society's attitude is that while it is concerned about a possible conflict of interest in packages offered by Solicitors Property Centres, it is even more worried if it is not solicitors who are controlling the fee package. When estate agents are calling the tune, the society says, "there is a problem of control".

The legal profession remains split. Meanwhile, in Crawley there is one interested party who is undoubtedly benefiting from the situation. House-buyers and sellers in the town are taking advantage of the reduction in both legal and estate agency fees that has resulted from the increasing competition.

Susan Fieldman

INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

Banks
Current account - no interest paid.
Deposit accounts - seven days, notice required for withdrawals.
Barclays 5.75 per cent, Lloyds 6.00 per cent, Midland 5.75 per cent, NatWest 6 per cent, National Girobank 6 per cent. Fixed term deposits £10,000-£24,999, 1 month 8.125 per cent, 3 months 7.875 per cent, 6 months 7.50 per cent, National Westminster, 1 month 7.85 per cent, 3 months 7.66 per cent, 6 months 7.29 per cent, Midland. Other banks may differ.

MONEY FUNDS

Fund	Net	CMR	Telephone
Albion Fund	0.32	8.64	01 628 0070
8 of Scotland	0.11	8.41	01 628 0050
Barclays Higher Rate	0.40	8.73	
Depository Account	£1,000-£9,999	8.50	8.76
£10,000 & over	8.75	9.04	01 628 1547
Case Allen	0.315	8.64	01 628 2777
IFC Trust 7 day	0.50	8.75	01 628 5351

Handwritten Money

Market	Net	CMR	Telephone
Cheque Account	0.31	8.34	01 628 5757
M & S	0.31	8.34	01 628 4358
Midland High Int	0.31	8.34	
Chenier Account	0.31	8.34	01 628 5757
£2,000-£9,999	0.31	8.34	01 628 5757
£10,000 & over	0.31	8.34	01 628 5757

Oppenheimer Money

Account	Net	CMR	Telephone
Over £10,000	0.32	8.48	01 255 5562
Over £10,000	0.31	8.55	01 255 5562
S & P	0.10	8.40	0788 66966
Schroder Money	0.22	8.50	0705 827733
Over £10,000	0.30	8.33	0705 827733
Tufts & Poyell	0.34	8.35	01 238 0652
Case Allen	0.315	8.64	01 628 2777
Tyndall 7 day	0.374	8.640	0272 732241
Tyndall 7 day	0.30	8.78	01 628 4601

Western Trust

Account	Net	CMR	Telephone
1 month	0.55	8.88	0752 281181

CMR = Commissioned Annual Rate

Figures are the latest available at the time of going to press.

National Savings Bank

Ordinary accounts - interest 6 per cent on £500 minimum on deposit for whole of 1985, otherwise 3 per cent. Investment Account - 12.75 per cent interest paid without deduction of tax, one month notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £50,000.

National Savings Income Bond

Min. investment £2,000 - max. £50,000. Interest - 13.25 per cent variable at six weeks notice paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 months notice. Penalties in first year.

National Savings 3rd Index-linked

certificates. Maximum investment £5,000, excluding holdings of other issues. Return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail price index. Supplement of 2.5 per cent in the first year; 2.75 per cent in the second year; 3.25 per cent in the third year; 4 per cent in the fourth year and 5.25 per cent in the fifth year.

Local authority yearling bonds

12 months fixed rate investments interest 11 1/2 per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Guaranteed Income Bonds

Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity.

1 yr General Portfolio 9.5 per cent, 2 yrs General Portfolio 9.3 per cent, 3 1/2 yrs General Portfolio 9.1 per cent, 5 yrs Liberty Life 9.3 per cent.

Local authority town hall bonds

Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). 1 yr North, 10.75 per cent, 2 yrs North, 10.875 per cent, 3 yrs South, 11.00 per cent, 4 1/2 yrs Worthing 11.00 per cent, 8 1/2 yrs Worthing 11.25 per cent. Minimum investment in each case, £500. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy, Loans Bureau (638 6381 between 10am and 2.30pm) see also on Prestal no 24806.

Building societies

Ordinary share accounts - 7.00 per cent. Extra interest accounts usually pay 1 to 2 per cent over the ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax. Not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

NEW INVESTMENT FUNDS

SPECIAL PRE-LAUNCH TERMS

Applications for shares in Citybond Storage open next Friday. The minimum investment is £2,000.

Details of both schemes are available from Johnson Fry, Princes House, 36 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6DT. Tel: (01) 443 1416.

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£5m target for the top people's put-u-up

Two new Business Expansion Schemes from the financial adviser Johnson Fry, are on offer this coming week - both with solid asset backing. The first is a hotel company operating from freehold premises in London's Draycott Place, near Sloane Square.

Rutland Court is at present a block of 10 fully serviced luxury apartments varying in size from studios to three bedrooms

suites, but the premises have planning permission for hotel use, and it is as a hotel that the new BES company intends to operate.

Contracts have been exchanged on Rutland Court for a purchase price of £1.525 million, but independent valuers say it is worth considerably more as a hotel.

Hotel Apartments is hoping to raise up to £5 million by the

issue of shares under the advantageous BES. Investors in BES companies are able to claim tax relief at their highest rate on investments up to £40,000 in any tax year. The issue has already been underwritten to the tune of £1 million, the minimum subscription.

The purchase price of £1.525 million includes all furniture, fixtures and fittings, but the company envisages spending another £150,000 on upgrading the interior decor.

The property is conveniently sited near to Knightsbridge, Harrods and the West End, and the target market is business executives in middle and top management on short-term assignments in London. "The shortage of high quality accommodation in central London has led to a strong and continuing demand for quality hotel accommodation," says the prospectus.

But the beauty of Hotel Apartments is that because it is arranged as self-contained units, should the demand for hotel accommodation drop off over coming years, it would be a simple matter to revert to the original use and sell off the

apartments individually as flats. Applications for shares in Hotel Apartments PLC open on Tuesday. Minimum investment is £3,000.

The second scheme from Johnson Fry is a document storage and retrieval company - again heavily asset-backed with 100,000 square feet of warehouse space located within three miles of the Bank of England. Purchase of this warehouse has already been agreed and contracts exchanged.

Citybond Storage Services is hoping to raise £3 million - the purchase price of the warehouse has been agreed at £775,000.

With prime office space in the City and West End costing well over £30 a square foot, there is a huge incentive for companies that store large amounts of documents to farm out the storage to companies like Citybond Storage.

"Including general rates and service charges, a total occupation cost of £55 a square foot is not uncommon for prime office space in the City of London," says the prospectus.

"There has been a growth rate in the off-site storage industry of 20 per cent a year for the past five years."

Applications for shares in Citybond Storage open next Friday. The minimum investment is £2,000.

Details of both schemes are available from Johnson Fry, Princes House, 36 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6DT. Tel: (01) 443 1416.

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UNIT LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

Cum stock opt. # Ex
more of the above). #
61.
Friday (2) Tuesday, (3)
ay. (26) 25th of month.
91 and 3rd Wednesday
2nd Tuesday of month.
10. (26) 4th Tuesday of
month, (26) Last Thursday
of month, (30) 18th of
month, (32) 20th of month
August, November, (34)
1st of month (36) 14th
91 3rd Wednesday of
month, (40) Valued
Exchange account.

Cum stock opt. # Ex
more of the above). #
61.
Friday (2) Tuesday, (3)
ay. (26) 25th of month.
91 and 3rd Wednesday
2nd Tuesday of month.
10. (26) 4th Tuesday of
month, (26) Last Thursday
of month, (30) 18th of
month, (32) 20th of month
August, November, (34)
1st of month (36) 14th
91 3rd Wednesday of
month, (40) Valued
Exchange account.

Saturday

Weekend television and radio programmes
Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

Sunday

BBC 1

- 6.45 Open University. Until 8.25
6.50 The Saturday Picture Show
with Mark Curry and Maggie
Phillips who report from the
Bealish Open Air Museum,
County Durham. The guests
include Keith Chegwin, Midge
Ure and Gary Davies; there is
a behind-the-scenes and
spectators' view of the Tourist
and Dean Ice spectacular at
Wembley; and photographer
Terence Donovan selects the
winners of the Summer Snap
competition.
Grandstand introduced by
Desmond Lynam. The line-up
is: 10.20, 1.50, 2.25, 2.55 and
3.20 Cricket: the NatWest
Bank Trophy Final between
Essex and Nottinghamshire at
Lords; 12.50 News summary
and weather; 1.00 Football
Focus with Bob Wilson; 1.25
and 4.00 News; 2.10 and 3.10
Racing from Haydock Park;
4.40 Final score.
6.05 News with Jan Leeming.
Weather 5.15 Sport/Regional
news.
6.20 The Tripods. Part one of a
new 12-episode adventure in
which the Tripods, alien
desperately wanting to rid the
world of the Tripods
taskmasters who have ruled
for a century, decide to go to
the invaders' City of Gold.
Starring John Sheehy and
Jim Baker. (Coefax)
6.50 Terry and June. A new series
of the domestic comedies
finds Terry volunteering June
to make the tea for his firm's
cricket team - without
checking with June first.
6.50 The Noel Edmonds Late Late
Breakfast Show. The start
of the fourth series of the show
that offers comedy, pop music
and excitement, some of it live.
7.10 Bob's Full House. A new
series of the comedy quiz
show based on fast moving
general knowledge questions.
7.45 Juliet Bravo. Inspector Kate
Longton returns for a final
series of crime-busting stories
beginning with an awkward
case in which a gang,
disguised as a school party,
take a bank manager's wife
hostage. Starring Anna
Cartwright and as the gang
leader, Simon Williams.
(Coefax)
8.35 The Paul Daniels Magic
Show. The man of magic
begins a new series with a trip
to Longleat where, in the
presence of the Marquis of
Bath, he destroys a valuable
antique tankard. The guests
are Jim McIlroy who catches
notes from bows with his bare
hands, and the balancing act
of Doris and Mario.
8.50 News and Sport, with Jan
Leeming. Weather.
9.35 Film: Fort Apache, the Bronx
(1981) starring Paul Newman,
Ken Wahl and Ed Asner. Fort
Apache is the chronicle of
New York's 41st police
precinct, set in the middle of
an almost deserted 40-block
area of the South Bronx. This
is the story of the policemen
of the precinct and their fight
against crime and their new,
do-it-by-the-book chief.
Directed by Daniel Petrie.
11.35 International Athletics from
Rome, introduced by David
Davies.
12.20 Weather.

tv-am

- 6.55 Good Morning Britain
presented by Tommy Boyd.
News and weather at 6.55 and
8.00. In between times, jokes,
cartoons and stories.
6.45 Wee Trax. Pop records and
videos plus viewers' holiday
snaps and postcards.
ITV/LONDON
9.25 TV. A new magazine series
featuring cartoons,
competitions, pop news and
videos. 11.15 The Baron. The
crime of the century is planned
by a gang who decide to kill
the Baron and replace him
with a double (r).
12.15 World of Sport introduced by
Eton Welsby. The line-up is:
12.20 Wrestling: two bouts
from Oakengate; 12.45 News;
12.50 On the Ball with Ian St.
John and Jimmy Greaves; 1.20
The TV Seven - the 1.30,
2.00, 2.30 and 3.00 from
Kempston and the 1.45, 2.15
and 2.45 from Thirsk; 3.10
Boxing: a light-weightweight
British title fight eliminator
between Clinton McKenzle
and Liddy Christie; 3.45 Half
time scores; 3.55 Boxing: the
British light-middleweight
Championship between Prince
Rodney and Mike Courtney,
from Douglas, Isle of Man;
4.55 Results.
5.00 News with Maryn Lewis.
5.05 Blockbusters. General
knowledge game.
5.35 The A-Team. The
instructed take on a gang
of bounty hunters.
6.30 Child's Play presented by
Michael Aspel, Mel Martin and
Gary Wilmot, with two
members of the public try to
discover the words that young
children try to define.
7.00 Russ Abbot's Madhouse.
More mayhem from the
comedian and his guests, Les
Dennis and Dustin Gee.
(Oracle)
7.30 3-2-1. Game show presented
by Ted Rogers. Competition
from Mull, Cheshire and Leeds
in a quiz with a country and
western flavour (Oracle).
8.30 Deepasy and Makepeace.
The two agents find
themselves in the middle of a
gang war after Makepeace is
kidnapped by a former
boyfriend that an armed
robbery is being planned on a
Thames pleasure boat. As if
that was not enough, they also
fall foul of the boys in blue.
8.30 News with Maryn Lewis and
David Davies.
8.45 London news headlines
followed by International
Athletics. The IAAF Grand Prix
Final from the Olympic
Stadium, Rome. Introduced by
Jim Rosenthal with
commentary by Alan Parry.
Adrian Metcalfe and Peter
Matthews.
10.45 Film: Women of San Quentin
(1983) starring Stella Stevens,
Debbie Allen and Yaphet
Kotto. A made-for-television
drama, based on fact, about a
selected group of female
prisoners in the all-male San Quentin
Prison in California. Directed
by William A. Graham.
12.35 25 Years at the Marquee.
Chris Barber and his band play
tribute to the music of New
Orleans.
1.25 Night Thoughts.



Claire Westwood who appears in Child's Play (ITV, 6.30pm). And Howard Keel who sings in a London concert (Radio 2, 7.30pm)

BBC 2

- 6.45 Open University: Maths.
Complex Analysis. 6.50 State
and Society Chile. 7.15 Health
care in Mozambique. 7.40
Field Geology: Aron. 8.05 The
Optical Lens. 8.20 The Golden
Age of Work. 8.55 Modelling
with Maths. 9.20 Physics: Light
on Lasers. 9.45 Creating
Equality in Class. 10.10 Ethnic
Minorities. 10.35 Management
and the School. 11.00
Geology: the Capitan Reef.
11.25 Organics by the Ton.
11.50 Children and the Female
Image. 12.15 Urban Change
and Conflict. 1.05 Popular
Culture: Football. 1.30
Introductory Electronics. 1.55
Religion: Krishna and Christ.
2.20 Modern Art and
Modernism. 2.45 Romantic
Poets: Shelley.
3.10 Film: With this Ring (1978)
starring Tom Bosley, Betty
White and John Forsythe. A
made-for-television romantic
comedy about the problems
and doubts that beset three
couples as they prepare for
their wedding. Directed by
James Sheldon.
4.40 Cricket. Live coverage of
the closing phase of the NatWest
Bank Trophy final at Lord's
between Essex and
Nottinghamshire.
7.30 News and Sport with Jan
Leeming. Weather.
7.45 International Sports Special.
Introduced by David Lick. The
final of the Women's Singles in
the United States Open Tennis
championships, plus coverage
of the Men's Singles semi-
finals. The commentators are
at Flushing Meadows as Dan
Maskell, John Barrett, Gerald
Williams and Ann Jones. Plus
the IAAF Grand Prix Final from
Rome.
10.50 The Good Old Days. A
celebration of 30 years of Old
Time Music Hall, on the
stage of the City Varieties
Theatre, Leeds. Introduced by
Leonard Sachs. Among those
appearing are Les Dawson,
Bernie Clifton, Peter Skellern
and members of the Players
Theatre, London (r) NB: If the
tennis from New York is
extended this programme will
be shown at a later date.
11.25 Cricket. Peter West introduces
highlights from today's game.
at Lord's between Essex and
Nottinghamshire in the final of
the NatWest Trophy
competition.
12.10 US Open Tennis. Further
coverage of the action from
Flushing Meadows, introduced
by Steve Rider. Ends at 1.30

CHANNEL 4

- 1.05 I Could Do That. Young people
from the North East discover
what is needed to succeed in
business (r).
1.30 Making the Most of... Low
cost leisure activities series (r)
(subtitled).
2.00 Film: The House on 92nd
Street (1945) starring William
Wyler. A spy thriller in which
a young German-American
student who agrees to help the
FBI break a Nazi spy ring
operating in New York.
Directed by Henry Hathaway.
3.40 Film: Who Done It? (1955)
starring Henry Hill, Belinda
Lee and David Kossoff. Benny
Hill's screen debut. In the role
of an ice-cream sweeper-turned
detective. Directed by Basil
Dearden.
5.05 Rockside. (r) (Oracle).
6.00 Family Ties. American
domestic comedy series.
6.30 Babble. The last programme
in the series of word games
presented by Peter Purves.
News summary and weather
followed by Rejoice. Candy
Davies continues her
exploration of aspects of faith
through various forms of
music with an examination of
temptation.
7.30 Union World presented by
Julie Hall and Anne Lester.
The programme reports on the
TUC Congress and the
millions of 'invisible' trades
unionists who are not affiliated
to the TUC.
8.00 World of Animation.
8.15 The Boy in the Bush. The
fourth and final part of the
drama serial about Jack, a
wilderness boy who is sent
to relatives in the Australian
bush in order to toughen him
up (r).
9.15 Upstairs, Downstairs. Part
one of a repeat of the fifth and
final series which begins in the
summer of 1919 with Richard
Bellamy in Paris on his
honeymoon with his new wife,
Virginia. (Oracle).
10.15 Hill Street Blues. Furlio is
in line for promotion - something
that men do not want.
11.15 Film: Double Indemnity
(1944) starring Barbara
Stanwyck, Fred MacMurray
and Edward G. Robinson.
Classic thriller about a married
woman who seduces an
insurance salesman into
murdering her husband so that
she can collect on his life
policy. Directed by Billy Wilder.
1.10 The Paul Hogan Show.
Australian humour (r).
1.40 Close.

BBC 1

- 6.45 Open University. Until 8.50.
6.55 Play School, presented by
Stuart McGugan and Liz
Watts. 9.15 Knock Knock.
Stories and songs for children
on the theme of 'positive
thinking'. 9.30 This is the Day.
A service of prayer and
fellowship from a viewer's
home in Aberfan. 10.00 Asian
Magazine. A musical
compilation of songs. 10.30
Chefs.
12.35 Farming. As farmers
borrowings from banks
increase, Welsh farmer, Isaac
Evans claims that the banks
are making too big a profit on
the loans. 12.58 Weather.
1.00 News headlines. 1.05
Sonnet. The Carwights
take in an unmarried mother
who has returned to Virginia
City only to find that her father
disowns her (r). 1.55 Cartoon.
2.00 Eastenders. (r) (Coefax).
2.30 Cartoon.
3.10 Film: The Sea Chase (1955)
starring John Wayne as the
anti-Nazi German captain of a
freighter berthed in Sydney at
the start of the Second World
War who tries to sail his vessel
to neutral Chile. With Lana
Turner and David Farrar.
Directed by John Farrow.
5.05 Antiques Roadshow
presented by Hugh Scully.
Arthur Macgill (his team of
experts are in Lancaster (r).
5.45 Watchdog. Nick Ross and his
colleagues with another
selection of cases involving
bureaucratic bungling and
sharp practice.
6.15 Write Now! Part four of the
series on better letter writing
despite the loss of both of his
legs. Directed by Lewis
Gilbert.
6.25 Appeal by Chris Bonington
on behalf of the National Trust
Lakes District Landscape Fund.
6.30 News and weather.
6.40 Songs of Wales from
Gorse, Great Yarmouth.
Cliff Michellmore joins
holidaymakers by the sea
singing hymns accompanied
by the local Salvation Army
Band (Coefax).
7.15 Open All Hours. An Asian
Yorkshireman learns the hard
way from Arloing that the art
of persuading customers to part
with their money. (Coefax).
7.45 Howards' Way. Episode two
of the drama serial and Tom
Holmes's decision to sink his
golden handshake into the
ailing Marmalade Boatyard
causes family friction (Coefax).
8.35 Whicker's World. The second
programme in the series in
which Alan Whicker visits
Britain's most famous people
and places. In this episode he
visits the home of the United
States. Among those he meets
this evening are Joan Collins
and Mike London, a
professional poker player
(Coefax).
9.30 In Sickness and in Health. All
points his amplified voice in
the direction of Fleet Street,
options and the clergy in
tonight's episode.
10.00 News.
10.15 The Matter of the Matter. David
Jessel questions our
assumptions about what
constitutes a multi-racial
society.
10.50 Glass. The first of five
documentaries on every
aspect of glass.
11.15 The People's Schools. Part
one of a series on the history
of mass education in England
and Wales (r).
11.45 The Sky at Night. Patrick
Moore with Ron Arbou at his
Winchester observatory.
12.05 Weather.

tv-am

- 6.55 Good Morning Britain begins
with a Thought for a Sunday.
7.00 Rub-a-Dub-Dub (r). 8.00
Are You Awake Yet? 8.25
News; 8.30 The Sunday
Programme. Jonathan
Dimbleby's guest is the
president of the BDP, Shirley
Williams.
ITV/LONDON
9.25 Wake-up London. Andy and
Angelo visit an archery club.
9.35 Woody and Friends. Two
cartoons. 9.45 Yaddy Doodle
Duck. Cartoons.
10.00 Morning Worship from the
First Bangor Presbyterian
Church, Co Down.
11.00 Getting On. Magazine
programme for the older
viewer. This week's edition
includes items on foot care
and mobility. 11.30 In the
Mouth of the Dragon. The final
programme of Michael Rodd's
series on Hong Kong (r).
12.00 Breedline Britain. The last in
the series of documentaries on
seven families representing
the poor in Britain today (r).
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Opening time for the biggest takeover of all

By John Lawless

When Mr William Sykes sold his brewery in 1822 for £400 the new owner placed the following advertisement in the *Leeds Mercury*: "Joshua Tetley informs the public that he has taken Mr Sykes's Brewery in Salem Place, Hunslet Lane, and respectfully solicits a continuance of those favours, so long and so liberally conferred on his predecessor".

It is a plea which Mr John Elliott shortly hopes to repeat. He is chief executive of Elders INL, the Australian brewery which wants to buy Allied-Lyons, the British beer, wines, spirits, soft drinks and food group.

Tetleys is now in a group of seven breweries across the country, which makes Allied-Lyons Britain's second biggest beer producer after Bass, pouring out more than 1,500 million pints a year, sold in part through its 7,000 public houses.

While the tradition of using four pairs of shire horses to deliver beer in Leeds persists, the price of takeovers has taken off in the past 163 years.

If Mr Elliott succeeds in overcoming opposition to his bid from the much larger Allied-Lyons group, he will have paid more than £2 billion. That would make it more than twice as large as the previous United Kingdom record takeover price.

The customers he hopes will continue liberally to confer their favours include most family shoppers, the Queen and even five-star generals in Brussels.

JL Catering Ltd, one of 10 British and 12 overseas companies in the Allied-Lyons food division, which last year achieved sales of £1,220 million, provides food at Buckingham Palace garden parties. Other big contracts are for the Wimbledon tennis championships, the International Day Polo at Smith's Lawn, Windsor, and the Farnborough Air Show.

A lesser-known name, in the wines, spirits and soft drinks division, which has 20 companies in Britain and 10

abroad, and annual sales of £1,039 million, is the Belgium-based Chacall De Decker. It supplies duty-free goods to Nato and Shape and the Eurocrats at the EEC.

The beer division has most companies - 41 in all, with only two outside the United Kingdom - but the smallest turnover at £999 million.

It has, however, added some of the latest brand names to the Allied-Lyons catalogue of labels. One comes from Australia, too, in the form of the recently much-advertised Castlemaine.

Allied-Lyons sales and profits (£m)		
	Turnover	Pre-tax profit
1980-81	2,267.7	112.4
1981-82	2,398.4	141.2
1982-83	2,543.1	159.8
1983-84	2,950.5	194.3
1984-85	3,174.8	219.0

It has joined the likes of Skol and Löwenbräu in the important lager market and nationally sold beers such as Double Diamond, Ind Coope Draught, Trent Bitter, Long Life and now Oranjeboom.

Twenty regional beers range from Anselmo and Romford Bitter, to Arris 70/- and Wrexham Lager.

Its public houses include one of several contenders for the title of England's oldest inn, the Fighting Cocks in St Albans, and one immortalized by the Florrie Ford musical song, the Old Bull and Bush in Hampstead, north London.

Five out of six awards from the Campaign for Real Ale have gone to Allied pubs.

Many of its beers are now sold in the fast-expanding take-home market, through 12,000 shops, supermarkets and off-licenses, including its own Victoria Wine Company.

Its product range in wines, spirits and soft drinks is huge. Allied-Lyons has 14 British wines, including Santogeno, Concorde, Cidera, Gaymays, Coates and White-wins, Babycham is put in a class of its own, but 10 soft



A line-up of Lyons "nippies" when a Corner House reopened in 1981.

drinks include Lyons own fruit juices and the Brivine range. In spirits and liquors, the 28 principal brand names encompass Lamb's Navy and Lemon Hart on the rum side. Teachers among whiskies. Warninks advocaat and Irish Mist.

Perhaps its best-known wine labels are the Harveys sherries. But they also include Don Cortez Spanish and Del Colle Italian wines, as well as Cockburns Special Reserve port. Grants of St James's do much of its shipping and wholesaling.

Lyons became Britain's biggest caterer between the wars, when people talked about "going to Lyons", and has recently revitalized its once-famous Corner Houses, where the waitresses, or "Nippies", had to be immaculately uni-

formed with buttons on their black uniforms stitched in red cotton, frilled and monogrammed caps, and dresses always of the correct length.

Lyons brand names in food would automatically find a place in the history books of retailing. It has teas (Tetley's, Horwans, Quick-brew and many under its own name), coffees (ground and instant), cakes and biscuits (Fullers, Hale-Trent, Maryland Cookies and Krispen), and ice creams (Lyons Maid, Bitterell, Eldorado, Mister Softie and, more recently, the American-inspired range of flavours of Baskin-Robbins).

Its non-food activities extended to being Britain's largest retailer of Mercedes Benz cars (through the Normand company formed in 1921 to service its own delivery vehicles that were then replaced

Dollar surge knocks 4 cents off pound

Continued from page 1

number officially estimated to be unemployed is 8.1 million. The total workforce is 11.53 million. More than 8 million jobs have been created in less than two years.

President Reagan greeted the figures as a sign that America was on the move. He said: "We are seeing the proof that America's economy is packing new power. We can keep driving our unemployment rate down, we can keep opening up opportunities for our future if all of us unite in working for an America where government doesn't grow, prosperity does."

So impressed were the bond markets by the unemployment figures that they registered huge price falls in hectic trading. The long Treasury bill-wether bond, which was over 102 on Wednesday, fell to just under 100 when the New York market opened. Futures followed suit.

Such a reaction is a victory for Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, the American central bank, who has been forecasting faster economic growth in the second half of this year. The bond markets have not believed him and have kept bond prices up.

In London, the metal market sprang to life for the first time in weeks. Metals such as copper and aluminium, which are traded in dollars, leapt in sterling terms.

The price of copper for delivery on the London Metal Exchange in three months rose by £20 a tonne to £1,063.

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Letter from Delhi

Luxury living in shadow of death

Number 12B Sir Gange Ram Marg (Road) is similar to many houses along a busy and noisy street lined with the substantial homes of wealthy Delhi residents. It is set back from the dusty pavement with trees shading a front garden and the lights twinkling from upstairs windows indicate a residence of some size.

Inside the modern symbols of a science - a colour television and video tape recorder alongside the leather-bound works of Shakespeare, the Wedgwood china and English crystal - are displayed with traditional ivory and sandalwood *objets d'art*. It should be an idyllic north Delhi home.

Unfortunately it has not turned out like that. Outside the wrought iron gates two police Land Rovers are parked at an angle across the pavement and four khaki-uniformed officers are on duty, peering suspiciously at every passing vehicle and demanding the credentials of everyone entering the grounds.

Attacks, these are the evidence of a marked man. Few, apart from the VIPs like the Prime Minister, need it more than the occupant of 12B - Jagdish Tytler, the 40-year-old Congress (I) MP for Sedona, Delhi. In the last few weeks, two of his closest colleagues have been shot dead so they dealt with constituents' problems at their offices.

Both had been named in the "black book" entitled *Who are the guilty?* in which the People's Union for Civil Liberty investigated the anti-Sikh riots and killings after the death of Mrs Indira